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10 October 1985

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

CARIBBEAN STATES AT ODDS OVER THE PROBLEMS IN CARICOM

St. Kitts' Concerns

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 7 Sep 85 p 5

[Text] TRADE MINISTER Róy Jones says failure by some Caricom nations to implement the Nassau Agreement has hurt the garment and shoe industries on St. Kitts and Nevis.

The garment industry in particular "is taking a beating," worsened "by the imposition of licensing by some Caricom partners which have effectively kept St. Kitts and Nevis products out of their countries."

Mr. Jones explained that some 80 per cent of the goods manufactured here are exported to the Caricom market.

As one of the first countries to implement the 1984 Nassau agreement, St. Kitts-Nevis is at a great disadvantage because our consumers have had to put up with higher prices, as a result of higher duties placed on goods coming in from third countries," Mr. Jones said.

However, the Minister was optimistic that the four countries which have not yet implemented the agreement — Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, Belize and Antigua and Barbuda — would do so in the near future.

While trade with its Caricom neighbours was declining, Mr. Jones said, "trade with United States has been growing in leaps and bounds over the past four years."

He pinpointed the electronics industry which, he said, was competing favourably with other countries both regionally and overseas.

In 1980, the electronics industry exported over \$2 million worth of goods to the U.S. market, but in 1984 this had jumped to \$14.8 million, he pointed.

Overall, the total value of goods exported to the United States last year was \$46 million, while it was only \$24 million in 1980.

Mr. Jones also disclosed in an interview that the Government is completing a barter agreement with Guyana under which St. Kitts and Nevis will take rice and pharmaceuticals from the Co-operative Republic in exchange for 25,000 pairs of shoes made here in St. Kitts.

The Minister said the two-island nation's Government is encouraging the local manufacturers and entrepreneurs to look outside the Caricom market.

Barbados Warning to Trinidad

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 7 Sep 85 p 13

[Text] EXPORTS from Trinidad and Tobago to Barbados will face restrictions unless Port-of-Spain lifts import curbs on local goods by the end of this month, Prime Minister Bernard St John says.

Mr St John threatened the retaliatory action last night in a tough-talking speech to supporters of his Barbados Labour Party (BLP).

Trinidad and Tobago introduced an import licensing regime over two years ago that has seen a contraction in trade with its Caribbean Common Market (Caricom) partners.

Official Barbados-Trinidad trade figures up to May show that local domestic exports to Port-of-Spain had fallen by over 50 per cent from \$26.7 million for the corresponding five-month period in 1984 to \$11.7 million.

Imports from Trinidad were valued at \$45.3 million, down from \$54.3.

Mr St. John also chided Trinidad and Tobago, along with Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Lucia, for their failure to implement provisions of the so-called Nassau Understanding by August 31 as agreed at the Caricom Summit here last July.

The 14-month old agreement involves raising tariffs on non-Caricom goods to offer a measure of protection to products made in the region. The intention is to stimulate intra-Caricom trade which has dropped steadily over the last three years.

The failure to carry out the agreement is a breach of faith with other territories in the Caribbean, Mr St. John declared.

"Any Government that does not carry out the agreement, we will be forced to treat like goods in a like manner," he added.

Belize, the other Caricom State that failed to comply with the deadline, has promised to adopt the relevant legislative measures as part of the Government's budget to be presented this month, Mr St. John said.

Saint Lucia and Antigua have said they won't be implementing the package until Trinidad, Caricom's largest export market, does so and frees up its market to their exports, he added.

Mr St. John, whose administration is grappling with a worsening unemployment problem, directly linked the rise in the jobless rate the latest estimate was 19.3 per cent -- on the continuing Caricom trade hassles, especially from Trinidad.

"We can't deal with unemployment in Barbados without reference to what is happening in our own domestic market and by extension the Caribbean Economic Community because that for all practical purposes is also our domestic market," he said.

LOSS OF JOBS

Barbados officials say that Trinidad's protectionist policies caused a few thousand Barbadians to lose their jobs as a result of factory closures. Others have been laid off.

Mr St. John blamed Trinidad's failure to honour its obligations by not implementing the Nassau package, on protectionist elements in the country who he said had captured the mind of the Government and had made it impotent to act.

Saying there was inherent unfairness in the way Port-of-Spain was treating exports of certain local products which he did not name, Mr St. John asked: "How do you expect to earn foreign exchange from me by earning some \$80 million a year approximately by using your aeroplanes to take up passengers in Barbados or to bring passengers from abroad here?"

"How do you expect to sell your detergents to us and we can't sell our detergents to you? How do you expect to sell your garments to us and we can't sell ours to you?"

Trinidad-St. Lucia Issue

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 7 Sep 85 p 7

[Text]

MINISTER of Trade, Industry and Tourism Wendell Mottley has denied any reports of having stated that this country is turning back on a trade agreement with St Lucia.

In the local media, there were reports of Mottley having said that Trinidad and Tobago was not honouring an agreement with St Lucia whereby it would grant St Lucia licences so that its goods can be im-

ported into Trinidad.

A press release from the Ministry stated that 90 per cent of the applications received for St Lucia have been processed and so far licences to the value of \$2,863,603 have been issued this year.

With regard to licences for garments, the Ministry outlined that applications from St Lucia are being considered in the context of recommendations from the

Garments Advisory Committee

The committee was established in April of this year to advise on the regime of imports, a policy which was deemed necessary for the survival and viability of our local garment industry.

In the meantime, however, Management Development Centre is conducting a survey on the garment industry, the results of which are expected soon.

CSO: 3298/1012

10 October 1985

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

ST VINCENT OFFICIAL REPORTS ON APC MEETING, DECISIONS

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 9 Sep 85 p 5

[Text] MR. BURTON WILLIAMS, Minister for Communication, Transport and public works of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, said his country was abstaining from the armed forced manoeuvres scheduled for St. Lucia next week.

Mr. Williams, who was in Suriname to attend the just concluded second air transportation meeting of the African, Caribbean and Pacific group of countries (ACP), told journalists that his Government is against military force as a solution for the social problems of the Caribbean region and Central America.

"For this reason St. Vincent and the Grenadines will not participate in the war games taking place in St. Lucia next week. We do not even have an army, only a police force, and that is sufficient for our country," he said.

The Minister added: "What my Government is seeking for the people is food and living room. We support the Contadora group in their efforts to bring peace to the region, because problems will be solved only by dialogue."

5 RESOLUTIONS

Referring to a resolution that the ACP meeting adopted, Mr. Williams said that BWIA (British West Indian Airways, the Trinidad and Tobago-owned carrier) was to be regarded as the national carrier of the Caribbean Common Market countries.

Talks were being conducted between BWIA and LIAT (Leeward Islands Air Transport) for a joint operation of air transportation services among the Caribbean islands.

LIAT is owned by several Eastern Caribbean Governments and based in Antigua.

Mr. Williams said he was of the opinion that on the basis of resolutions adopted at the ACP meeting, discussions should be held between all the aviation companies operating in the Caribbean. A better regional air transportation service was necessary, benefiting every island, he added.

The week-long ACP meeting drew officials, many at the ministerial level, from some 40 countries.

Before closing, the delegates passed five resolutions advocating, among other positions:

- Joint purchase and leasing of aircraft, ground equipment, fuel and insurance;
- Joint establishment of new regional and sub-regional airlines.
- Joint operation, by Governments and airlines, of training centres for air services personnel.
- Shared use of ground equipment and maintenance facilities.
- Liberalisation of air traffic rights.
- Strengthening of the ACP secretariat in the area of air transport;
- Technical assistance from the ACP Secretariat for Tourism Promotion, stressing air travel.
- Naming of a committee at the ACP Council of Ministers level and formation of a bureau to deal with inter-regional air services and other air transport matters.

CSO: 3298/1038

ARGENTINA

ROUCO VIEWS PERONIST DISINTEGRATION

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Aug 85 pp 1, 4

[Article by J. Iglesias Rouco: "The Peronist Ruin"]

[Text] Although in many ways, the Office of Secretary General of the Presidency and the Ministry of Interior disagree totally on the treatment which the government should mete out to Peronism, the leaders of both sectors believe, and not without some justification, that the 3 November elections will mark the beginning of the last phase of extinction of the "second movement," both politically and in the trade union area. While this process was revealed by the results of the general elections of 30 October 1983, in which only the polarization which occurred at that time enabled Peronism to obtain 40 percent of the votes, even the more cautious sectors of government now estimate that the Peronists will win between 20 and 25 percent of the votes in November and in some cases, even less.

Alfonsin's movement and the leftist parties, especially the PI [expansion unknown], will probably be the main beneficiaries of the shift. Naturally, it may be softened by controversies such as the one yesterday, which pitted Alfonsin against the CGT [General Confederation of Labor], with reproaches such as those which Peron -- as democratically elected as Alfonsin -- leveled against his adversaries in his years of conceited eruptions. Similar outbursts -- we had another very noisy one in Trelew -- only reveal the authoritarian egocentrism which here are usually covered by democratic gestures and which bestow on their targets a status they do not have. But even with such aid, the General's heirs could win little more.

Miguel: Alfonsin's "Adviser"

A simple review of what is happening to Peronism recently supports governmental calculations. For example:

1 -- Lorenzo Miguel is trying to replace Saadi from the chairmanship of the Justicialist high council, but at the same time, Triaca and Cavalieri are trying to remove Miguel from "the 62." The old leaders of labor and management, always just as opposed to the metallurgical boss as they were to Ubaldini, now say that Miguel is being used by the government as the "trade union adviser" and that he is precisely his pacts with Troccoli that have recently caused Miguel to make war on Herminio Iglesias.

2 -- In the eyes of the CGT, this reticence -- frequently frank opposition -- responds to a current reportedly promoted by Lorenzo Miguel himself because of his pacts with Troccoli. But despite their disagreements with Miguel, the "boycott" also reportedly involves Triaca, Cavalieri and Baldassini, although for another reason: their desire to take away Ubaldini's political possibilities and reduce his specific weight in the CGT leadership through the failure of the strike and the people's mobilization.

Curiously enough, this secret offensive of a few against the strike coincides with that being waged -- also secretly -- by the government, but for rather than against the strike, persuaded by the sabotage of Miguel, Triaca, Cavalieri and Baldassini will doom it to failure. Consequently, Alfonsinism will be able to present to the country a very obscure beginning of the Peronist election campaign (the aspect of the beginning of an election campaign is precisely what the government propagandists are giving to the strike). Yesterday's controversy of the president with the CGT surely responded to that intention of promoting a trade union move that he deems in advance to be semi-abortive, even at the expense of temporarily increasing the stature of Ubaldini and the other CGT leaders.

These converging games of Peronism and the government indicate that from the basic trade union-Radical pact, which has tacitly been in force for a long time, only Ubaldini and Herminio Iglesias are now reportedly excluded, although the conduct of the latter is subject to many serious doubts (as is that of Ubaldini, perhaps). In fact, if Iglesias truly wanted a strong Peronism, capable of constituting a real opposition, he would have ceased talking at the beginning of last year and would not now be trying -- at least openly -- to become an almost sole "alternative."

Grosso's Work

3 -- Equally enticing are the undertakings of the Peronist "politicians." In the federal capital, Grosso did not want to present his candidacy because, he maintained, "Peronism has deteriorated a great deal in recent months." And yet, he has now changed his mind and is willing to head the local list. Consequently, the candidate for the post in the last "internal election," Eduardo Vaca, would now be in second or third place, depending on his arrangements with the representative of the "25," Roberto Digan. If Grosso has his way, the fourth position would belong to Ines Botella. Nevertheless, none of the four believes that Justicialism will win more than three deputy seats here.

4 -- This possible capital list would present Grosso with another problem: his break with the "62," whom he had promised a place among his petitioners. As far as we know, Lorenzo Miguel has already taken steps in pursuit of the intervention of metropolitan Peronism, with the idea that it would be the high council that would decide the makeup of the list. In other words, if he should recover, Grosso has reportedly proposed to Miguel that he support him as the party's national congressman, although in the last internal election, the leader of the UOM [Metalworkers Union] was defeated in his own jurisdiction (Villa Lugano) and should therefore be replaced by a member of the group

of the "renewers." The offer is apparently not unattractive to Miguel, but his acceptance of Grosso's candidacy would only be definitive if Grosso resigns the presidency of the party in Buenos Aires and if he is replaced by a follower of Luder, whom Miguel likes: Marcos Raiger. But this solution is still up in the air. According to our sources, the "renewers" and the "62" are contemplating another variation: that the fourth place on the capital list be given to a friend of the "62," Licastro, Gallo or Minichilo, although the post would, as Miguel's own aides admit, be totally "honorary."

5 -- In Buenos Aires Province, Herminio Iglesias and Cafiero will present their candidacies separately, each with a different front: the latter with the support of the "25," allied in turn with almost nonexistent parties such as the Popular Union, and the former with the MID [Integration and Development Movement], with Zaffore as one of the names on the list, plus other equally nonexistent splinter groups. But in the province, a third nucleus has already gone on the move, encouraged by Miguel and led by Urriza, Gonzalez and Migliozzi, the latter next to Luder although he has placed his cards, successively, on Iglesias, Cafiero, the 62, the renewers and the "ultrarenewers."

In short, the Peronist political geography appears to be nearly completely insular and the government is now beginning to encroach upon its areas. Obviously, the major Peronist leaders will only be able to maintain their tacit pact with Alfonsinism to the extent that the second and third ranks of leadership of their party suffer the proper scattering. Whence the latest maneuvers of the Casa Rosada [Executive Mansion], such as the "leak" which one presidential office had a journalistic "spokesmen" publish, to the effect that Ubaldini and Lorenzo Miguel will meet tomorrow with the president, a leak that Alfonsin yesterday denied, adding that there would be no "consultations" with the CGT on the social welfare law either. All this only served to confuse and divide even further the second and third ranks, ensure the strike on the 29th -- the Peronist failure -- and, on the ashes of the Peronist ruin -- gradually erect the image of the great winner: Alfonsin, the great Alfonsin.

11,464

CSO: 3348/936

ARGENTINA

UCR SHIFT TOWARD MODERATE POSITIONS SEEN GAINING VOTES

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Aug 85 p 7

[Article by Daniel Lupa: "The Radical Strategy"]

[Text] The economic and organizational aspects of the strategy -- not the campaign itself -- that the Radicals will follow for the next elections and that LA PRENSA printed a few days ago in these very columns, are accompanied by a very complicated program of decisions in the strictly political field and a detailed plan of parallel political and partisan scenarios.

The framework for the strategy will be a tripod on three levels: party decisions, government definitions and the behavior of outside groups, which can all contribute to the consolidation of the Radical Party.

In the very beginning, one must realize that midstream, the Radicals abandoned the idea of backing candidates from outside the party, which resulted in the extremely tense internal relations at the convention meeting last year. Of the decisions adopted at the meeting, the only one left of some use is the resolution that Alfonsin can head the party and the republic, without statutory opposition, breaking down the best Radical tradition of the separation between party and government.

And yet, the virtue of outside support -- at the time, such support could come from the Peronists, trade unionists or the left -- has been replaced, given the current strategic definitions, by silent movements revolving around political groupings that might be permeable to an agreement with the government party. In that sense, one should pay great attention to the statement by the Progressive Democratic Party that situates the group as an internal line of an as-yet nonexistent "third historic movement," proclaiming itself to be an admirer and the staunchest follower of Alfonsin, thus copying the extra-Peronist groups that once sought their own space in the official circle, giving their support to the figure of Juan Peron, clearly set apart from his followers.

Something similar could be observed with respect to a number of provincial groupings which made up the old gathering of the People's Federalist Forces: Two provinces: San Juan and Corrientes, with governors of that extraction, do not conceal their propensity for a rapprochement with the government party and in some cases, even engage in political actions which, with the division

of the center, will undeniably benefit the Radical government. This strategy has been carried further in cases such as Tucuman, where Celestino Gelsi, one of the promoters of the FUFEP [Popular Federalist Force], joined the Radicals, or Catamarca, where the party led by General Brizuela concluded an alliance with the Radicals for these elections. But what one seems to find at the heart of this strategy with greater efficacy for the Radical strategy is political maneuvers such as those as those of the Progressive Democrats, competing with the Radicals around the figure of Alfonsin and consequently, consolidating the central situation, yielding political benefits for the government party itself. Or that of those who promote "diversionistic" or "diversionary" maneuvers (as they are called in the corresponding fringe) of the center, through alternative candidacies in districts chosen because of their conflictive aspects (the capital and Buenos Aires Province are two critical examples).

Economic Role

This description points up -- as it seems to do in the very strategy outlined by one of the party strategists -- the confrontation which the government will have with moderate sectors. The analyses that support this strategy indicate quite precisely that "most of the urban population has given specific support for the new economic plan because its political behavior responds quite precisely to moderate positions." At least this was so for the analysis made of behavior registered before implementation of the existing economic plan. But from then on, strategists conclude, one must bear in mind any current that emerges in this priority election fringe made up of men and women who are independent, but who are essentially moderate, those who gave the Radicals their greatest election victory. Manuel Mora y Araujo, a sociologist who is also a candidate for deputy for the Central People's Alliance, said, in a recent study published by the Institute of Compared Studies headed by Marcos Victorica, that the Alfonsinist triumph came more from the moderate factions of the centrist parties rather than from the votes of leftists or Peronists.

This fact has been clearly perceived by Alfonsinism, which will try, in keeping with its current strategy, to hold those votes and gain more ground in the remaining sectors. Consequently, in order to retain those votes, its campaign will revolve around the economic plan, viewed as the platform most in keeping with the political temperament of that fringe. Disagreement with this proposal is apparently nil in party ranks, which are reportedly willing to clench their teeth and remain silent on the matter as the price of an election reward reputed to be fundamental in government schemes.

However, the technical debate unleashed by Alvaro Alsogaray (but counterbalanced by other Liberal economists, who give their support to the new economic plan) could, depending on the intensity with which the campaign is waged, lead to situations of conflict that are certainly being analyzed by the Liberal opposition itself.

Military

If the "new economic plan is a carrot dangled in front of the moderate election faction," as privately defined on Wednesday by one Radical deputy, then "the

trial of the military leaders is the other carrot dangled before the eyes of the left." It is obvious that the same role that progressive democrats have informally come to play seems to be assigned, in party strategy circles, to the alliance maintained by democratic socialists with the populist socialism of Estevez Boero. One sign has begun to be seen in the condemnation expressed for the position of the person who for 12 years was the secretary general of the grouping, Emilio Giannoni, over his statements concerning the so-called "Plaza de Mayo Mothers," statements that supported the position of the group for the past 8 or 9 years, but which are now subject to change.

The alliance which maintains inconcealable colloquial ties with the minister of interior and other government officials is reportedly destined to act as a posture neutralizing the left because in the radical strategy, the view of the migration of the Peronist vote mainly considers the competition that might be presented by the Intransigents and the Movement to Socialism. This explains why Marcelo Stubrin was appointed as candidate rather than Jorge Vanossi, undeniably choosing a pole of attraction for the fringe that might switch from Peronism as an available option rather than the center, already considered too highly involved in criticism of the government.

Consequently, the wrangling between the center and the left places the Radical strategy in the strictly political plane, in an ambiguity of alternatives difficult to control, aside from the massive propaganda it could control via communications media belonging to the government. One new element: The Peronist crisis has taken from its hands the best tool it had in the past: polarization.

11,464
CSO: 3348/936

ARGENTINA

TECHNOCRATS, HISTORICS SEEK TO ACHIEVE POLITICAL BALANCE

Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 18 Aug 85 p 22

[Article by Marcelo Bonelli]

[Text] The vacancy left in the industrial area by the withdrawal of Carlos Lacerca, the unexpected establishment of the National Development Council, to be headed by Bernardo Grinspan, and the rehabilitation of the UCR [Radical Civic Union] economic commission, headed by Enrique Garcia Vazquez, opens up a new process on the eve of elections that will tend to make the structure of the government's economic team overlap with the mainstream of the party.

The attempt to link the extrapartisan direction of the Ministry of Finance with the Radical tradition recognizes in the naming of the austral plan as the very basis of the election campaign its principal promoter.

Minister Juan Sourrouille himself admitted at the recent meeting with trade unionists and businessmen that, in order to speak of a revival, "it is necessary to coordinate the areas of industry, domestic and foreign trade."

From another standpoint, this further confirms the order to establish CONADE [National Council for Development], on the basis of which Planning Secretary Bernardo Grinspan proposes to apply the development plan drafted by his office.

The apparent superposition of tasks surprises a very firm Sourrouille, vigorously supported by the Buenos Aires coordinating board of Enrique Nosiglia, Marcelo Stubrin and Jesus Rodriguez and by Buenos Aires native Juan Manuel Casella.

The other outsider who recently joined the team involved in decisionmaking is Manuel Tanoira, from the Office of Secretary of Growth Promotion.

Scarcely had he gotten off the motorcycle carrying him to the Ministry of Finance when Tanoira received from Sourrouille's second-in-command, Adolfo Canitrot, this good advice: "The first thing you have to do is to make room in the administration through agreements with certain sectors."

The brand-new official wasted no time, once he had gone through the first encounter with different official agencies, especially the Secretariat of

Transport. Daniel Batalla questions Tanoira's interest in restoring Austral to the private sector and does not hesitate to connect him with interested enterprises and members of the Martinez de Hoz team. Tanoira minimizes accusations in telling Industrial Union leaders the following, for example: "The fact is that Batalla is a statist, one of the most hard-line in the government."

The secretary of growth promotion came to the presidential office accompanied by publicist Meller Goodbar. Despite his good relations with the government team, he could not guarantee support. "That is why we are resorting to dialogue with the 'Coti' Nosiglia. The coordinating board gives us political support and we shall consult it on our plans," they say on the 9th floor of the Ministry of Finance, where Tanoira found room to set up his offices.

Central Bank officials and Ministry of Finance experts do not interpret things in the same way either. "We only have contact with Massorin and Feldman. Conception and the rest have a passive attitude. They do not boycott things, but they don't tell us anything either and carry out our instructions very slowly," confesses Jose Machinea, undersecretary of economic policy.

The most worrisome case for Finance is that of Marcelo Da Corte, who stands a prudent distance from the program. "I don't know. He is somewhere else," says Canitrot, arguing the indifference with which they are treated by one of the top officials of the Central Bank. They have consequently invited him on a joint trip to the United States.

Relations with the Central Bank (the Ministry of Economy says that they hurt the credibility of the model) are an example that Sourrouille does not have a blank check signed by the president.

Even if he has full support to carry out the program, he has not yet been able to lay a hand on the Central Bank, as he would have wished, or name Jorge Katz to Industry. Everything seems to indicate that the main candidate to succeed Lacerca is Nestor Farias Bouvier, recommended by Raul Thomas, who has not yet managed to fit in with party members and therefore does not thrill the president.

The "Historic" economists removed from decision-making, such as Grinspun and Garcia Vazquez, are trying to advance by creating more power mechanisms within the party and the government. In less than a month, they have reappeared in photos, controlling the party economic committee (on which there are no Ministry of Finance officials) and on Friday, President Alfonsin unexpectedly signed Order 1,535 creating the National Development Council, to be headed by Planning Secretary Bernardo Grinspun.

A direction similar to that of backing CONADE was taken by Alfonsin when he set up a high-level committee to handle export policy. The Foreign Ministry proposed to staff the organization with ministers Dante Caputo, Roberto Tomasi and Juan Sourrouille. In order to maintain balance, the president decided to summon these aides, but added Grinspun and Secretary Ricardo Campero.

Such movements do not concern Ministry of Economy officials. "Come on! Are you going to tell me that Grinspun still has hopes after what he did when he was a minister?" asks Canitrot, forming a zero with his fingers when asked about the government's economic policy.

In contrast, Mario Brodersohn, finance secretary, remains silent, concentrating on decisions. He does not feel he is a technocrat because he is a Radical, although only recently.

Some say that he did not manage to replace Concepcion in the Central Bank because the Ministry of Finance wanted him near and more dependent on the minister's decisions. Furthermore, as secretary of finance, one of Sourrouille's men was left at his side: Ricardo Carciofi, budget undersecretary, who nevertheless lost substantial power when Brodersohn took office (the Office of Undersecretary of the Budget had previously handled Treasury funds, the problem of the domestic and foreign debt of the public sector and relations with the provinces).

Following Brodersohn's reorganization, these tasks were reserved for two officials enjoying his trust: Juan Sommer and Carlos Bastianes.

It so happens that Brodersohn's possible successor, Christian Colombo (his successor in the National Development Bank), assures him of a deeper and more lasting relationship with the Federal Capital Coordinating Board than the consensus obtained by Sourrouille from that faction. This causes the secretary of finance to be one of the men most consulted by President Alfonsin.

Naturally, the reticence of public enterprises in complying with their obligations endangers the stability of his management.

However, his status as a "shrewd politician," as he likes to define himself, has already enabled him to find someone with whom to share the difficult mission of dealing with the rebellious national entities: his defenestrated predecessor Norberto Bertaina.

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ARGENTINA

INTA PRESIDENT ON PERSONNEL SHORTAGES, NEW PROJECTS

Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 10 Aug 85 pp 10-11

[Interview with Carlos Lopez Saubidet, president of INTA [National Institute of Agricultural-Livestock Technology]; date and place not given]

[Text] Since 1956, the year of the establishment of the National Institute of Agricultural-Livestock Technology, the organization has contributed greatly to improved production in the sector. Through research and extension work, Argentine farmers have been able to incorporate genetic advancement and management techniques helping to improve the yield of different types of production.

Agronomist Carlos Lopez Saubidet, president of INTA, answered the following questions in an interview with CLARIN RURAL:

[Question] Has INTA managed to regain its autarchy?

[Answer] Since its creation, INTA has enjoyed autarchy financially and administratively, enabling it to do effective work both with respect to research and extension.

Economic autarchy was achieved as the result of the implementation of an export tax on all agricultural products amounting to 1.5 percent, raised to 2 percent in the early 1970's. With these funds, the Institute has been able to do a great deal of work, which in 1980 was unfortunately reduced substantially when it lost its autonomy.

INTA then came under the National Treasury and the funds it receives are inadequate to carry out the programs it has drafted. Its income is less than half of what it received when it was independent.

To answer your question directly, one should mention that with the advent of the democratic government, one of the first laws passed by the legislature was that of restoring the autonomy of INTA, an achievement which began to be seen in the last quarter of 1984, with the new income of funds.

The current regime grants 1.5 percent of exports in the way of a tax, mainly from the pampas, so that it is to be hoped that institutional activity will again be reactivated.

[Question] Can we then say that INTA now has the elements it needs to do its work properly?

[Answer] Unfortunately, not yet. As you know, the 1985 budget has not yet been passed. Consequently, we are working with last year's, which, although it has been updated by the Secretariat of Finance, is nevertheless inadequate for the projects planned.

[Question] Has INTA incorporated new professionals and nontechnical personnel?

[Answer] In our organization, hiring was frozen several years ago and the system we were using stipulated that we could have only 50 percent of the original posts, the other half being eliminated. Now the situation is even worse because there is a total freeze on hiring. When there is a vacancy, that job immediately disappears, basically for nontechnical personnel.

At the present time, INTA does now have the necessary personnel, basically in administration and manual labor, to the point that at the INTA Experimental Station in Pergamino, the ratio for nontechnical and technical personnel is 1.1/1. This is very lopsided. Furthermore, most of the nontechnical employees are over 50.

This means limited work for technical personnel, who have to carry out non-specific tasks in order to do their experiments.

Whatever the case, I believe that it is now necessary to redefine the role of the government, especially with regard to INTA.

[Question] What projects does INTA intend to carry out immediately?

[Answer] We are now regaining our operational capabilities. The Inter-American Development Bank (BID) loan of \$38 million has a great deal to do with this. It will mainly be used to train technical personnel through scholarships and purchase equipment and instruments for laboratories.

We do not yet have the loan, but we hope it will arrive within 3 or 4 months.

INTA has to make an enormous effort in two directions: the first to define priorities (avoiding a scattering of efforts and limited resources) of research to be done and second, to ensure that technological development would be accelerated and have results useful to production within the shortest possible period of time.

[Question] Is the Institute still suffering from the exodus of skilled personnel?

[Answer] In Argentina, inflation, one of the factors that suffers the most is wages and INTA is no exception. As a result, we can say that a number of professionals, more important qualitatively than quantitatively, choose to seek new horizons in the private sector.

That exodus continued during the first half of 1984 and then stopped following the improvement in salaries. The most substantial loss is caused by the fact that in order to train a professional, one needs at least 10 years and what that represents in terms of money is substantial.

ARGENTINA

REDUCTION OF SOWN AREA BLAMED ON LACK OF RESOURCES

Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 17 Aug 85 pp 6-7

[Article by Domingo Di Nucci]

[Text] July is a month of singular importance for wheat production because it is usually the month of planting. By that date, one commonly sees some fields already planted, while others are being prepared for seeding. South-eastern Buenos Aires Province and more precisely, the area of Tres Arroyos, San Cayetano, San Mayol, Oriente, San Francisco de Belloqc, Gonzalez Chaves and Coronel Dorrego, devote a vast area of land to the crop and according to many producers, there will be a reduction of between 10 and 15 percent in the area planted compared with the preceding year. This picture becomes even gloomier when one observes that the tendency among growers is to buy fewer products for planting.

In other words, the area sown will be smaller and the technological elements will be of poorer quality as a result of the lack of money and the near total absence of bank loans.

Dionisio Bogogna, a producer from San Francisco de Belloqc, said: "There is great uncertainty over the prices we will get for our products. We do not know whether there will be any price supports that would at least prevent losses.

"To date, we only know that they have set a maximum price, but not a minimum. Given such a choice, many growers with the possibility of raising sunflowers will take a lot of land away from wheat and put it in that oil-yielding crop, which to date has shown a much better profit, all things considered."

"It is worthwhile to point out," Bogogna said, "that a real blunder was made with meat. For a long period of time, meat was far below the historical level, going from \$.70 a kilo to \$.30 by last May. When the price began to go up, the authorities decided to freeze prices, setting a maximum but without fixing any minimum.

"When we had to bear the burden, we did, but when the time came to recover, we could not because of schemes that lead nowhere.

"We agree that inflation has to be controlled," says Norberto Schenck, "but not at the expense of price controls. The government has been very courageous in taking these measures, but we think it will be necessary to look at this matter of controls again.

"The crops will be harvested because after all, the producer has to plant because of the very nature of his activity. We have to keep the whole machinery going," Schenck said. "However, we do see that there is a whole series of elements that are not corrected, as is now happening with the hybrid sunflower seed.

"The historical price of a kilo of sunflower seed was equivalent to .17 quintal of sunflower and by May, that ratio had increased to .28 quintal for every kilo of seed and after the price freeze, it takes .31 quintal to buy a kilo of hybrid seed. The picture is very complicated and one can predict a greater planting in varieties replacing hybrids, which will result in a poorer yield and lower oil content," Schenck concluded.

For his part, Ignacio Calle, an Oriente producer, defined the plan drafted by the government in the economic area as "a simple set of measures with absolutely no coherent overall plan. Production is not being revived," Calle noted, "the banks are not giving loans and there is a lack of products."

Lack of Loans

"Both at the Provincial Bank of Buenos Aires and the Argentine National Bank, there are provisions for granting wheat planting loans for up to 200 hectares, to be paid in exchange for wheat plus 7-percent interest annually. First of all, one of the banks granted no loans because it had no funds with which to do so and second, the area covered by such loans is very small for most producers, who had to resort to loans at regulated rates to cover expenditures exceeding the area over 200 hectares.

"In other cases, they planted by using revenue and reserves from sunflower crops. In my opinion, those who had such resources are the ones who have planted and who on the whole probably represent 50 percent of the land planted," Calle added.

"Proof of the degree of improvisation of economic officials is Notice 690 A from the Central Bank, dated 28 June," Bogogna adds, "which reduces the deadline for foreign exchange income for exports from 180 to 30 days. This hurts our ability to get our products out because in the opinion of operators, it is technically impossible to channel sales within that period of time. It is already difficult with primary products such as shipments of wheat, corn or other grain, but it is even much more complicated when it is a matter of by-products such as sunflower oil, which requires a processing phase. Without any doubt, this measure has to be corrected because if to the problems of production we have already commented upon we add those relating to marketing, the future picture is very dim.

"In my opinion, prices on the domestic market will tend to drop and consequently, so will our income," he emphasized.

"There is no possibility of investing when, in order to obtain loans, one has to pay 13 percent interest monthly," said Adrian Marcenac, wheat producer from Necochea. "The existing economic plan needs a chapter speaking of recovery. Cattle are not worth anything, wheat either, the rural people want to work, but it's not worth it," Marcenac explains.

"A grower cannot protect his capital. If your cow needs a Caesarian section and you have to call in a veterinarian, then it is better to kill the cow. Economically, you are better off. The machinery needs to be modernized very rapidly and although the factories give you payment plans of up to 180 days with no interest, the producer does not buy. In other words, he is desperate and skeptical; he no longer believes anyone," Marcenac says.

Support

"On 15 June, there was a change in government, without any coup," says Roberto Vassolo, Tres Arroyos producer. "From a discreet policy, we went to a profound modification. Personally speaking, I totally support the measures.

"In my opinion, this should stimulate growers to plant wheat. We cannot forget that from hyperinflation, we have gone to 0 inflation, that without any doubt this will help to calm people down and provide hope that the future will be better.

"The political definition chosen by the government has to be maintained, although the freeze has to be for a short time only. We shall gradually have to free ceiling prices so that we producers can see that our income does not lag behind," he added.

For Pedro Perego, another Tres Arroyos grower, "with a price of 6 australs a quintal, the only thing you can do to make a profit is produce more."

When asked about the source of resources enabling producers to do their work of preparation and planting, Perego indicated that "we don't know where they get the money, but they are planting." Producers must be without capital because they gave their wheat away in January. They need loans to work under better conditions. The existing loan which would grant 20 australs a hectare is inadequate.

Donato Goicoechea, Angel Losada and Gabriel Urtasum referred to the high risks they take to make a profit.

"Production costs are based on having your own land and getting 19 quintals a hectare, but if you have to rent, the figure goes up to 26 quintals of wheat a hectare to make it.

"With respect to growers who rent their land (approximately 35 percent), the situation is very risky because in order to obtain yields of over 30 quintals, it is necessary to have a high incorporation of technology. The average in the area is not over 23 to 24 quintals a hectare, meaning that the difference that could be attributed to gross income may be adjusted greatly or, in the worst case, not exist at all or mean losses," they agreed.

"Every year, our purchasing power goes down," those interviewed said. "In December 1980, we could buy a 145 hp tractor with 2,800 quintals of wheat. Today, in July 1985, you need 4,000 quintals! Furthermore, there are no loans to buy such items, so that investments have declined."

Confiscatory Withholding

"We growers are subject to a whole series of schemes that hurt our profitability," says Abel Alejandro Errazi. "Withholding, higher taxes, the high marketing and transportation costs, on the order of 28 to 30 percent, and the last increase in the cost of our products, the 18-percent devaluation and the creation of a tax on imported products of 10 percent, all combine to take away the grower's income. If there were not such heavy burdens, our possibility of channeling money to investments would be greater.

"From the standpoint of production, we do not have any great means of diversifying because there are technical factors preventing a massive switch to sunflowers, a grain which has recently offered better results," Errazi said.

In the opinion of Horacio Pailhe, Tres Arroyos grower, "there will not be major changes in the area of planting, although there will be fewer products used, which in the long run will result in smaller crops. To a certain extent, variations in this area may not be very great with respect to the area planted in wheat because in any case, you have to go by a system of rotation in order to be able to maintain the fertility of the soil."

For his part, agronomist Hugo Cadenas said that "at the present time, agriculture faces frozen prices with high costs for the products we have to use and low prices for what we produce."

Jacobo Griffiden, Tres Arroyos producer, said that "the economic measures had to be taken, but there have been no changes inciting those of us remaining in production to make the enormous expenditures generated by the government apparatus."

"There have apparently been some irregularities in the implementation of the process," Dante Di Marco says. "I sold sunflowers before the measures were taken, to be paid at the end of June. When I received the money, I lost money because of application of the conversion table for turning Argentine pesos into australs, which caused enormous losses because I had to cover the costs of production, the harvest and marketing without any discount at all."

Inadequate Resources

In southeastern Buenos Aires Province, it is estimated that to date, the first half of June, the amount of land planted in wheat is only 50 percent of estimates, meaning that in the end, there may be a reduction on the order of 10 to 15 percent. Another negative factor is the lack of resources of growers, which is certain to result in less advanced technology.

When they do not have their own funds, growers tend to use fewer agricultural products in order to avoid going into debt.

If these predictions should hold true, the harvest will be smaller than last year, which, with less land planted, enjoyed exceptional yields because of the timely rainfall.

Economic measures recently applied by the National Government have been well received, especially with respect to controlling inflation. There is fairly unanimous agreement that with the process of high inflation suffered, it was impossible to work.

There is also general agreement on the price controls. While some accept their application for a short period of time, the measure generally provokes sharp criticism, with growers claiming that price controls may affect the success of the program.

Producers also observe that the cost of products they use has gone up (for herbicides, fertilizer, insecticides and seed) and that in contrast, their income has dropped as the result of the imposition of ceiling prices.

Another problem without solution is that of loans, an indispensable tool when investment time comes. At the present time, when production programs are being drawn up, knowing whether loans will be available enables one to make decisions and yet, the banks do not have the resources to generate the peace of mind growers need.

Machinery and implement manufacturers have resorted to creative thinking in order to sell their equipment, with many factories offering goods in exchange for wheat in the future. The system, which requires no initial outlay, has not worked with farmers, fearful of contracting new debts.

Farm machinery needs modernization in keeping with the progress made in recent years in seed and agricultural chemicals.

In short, one can say that the anti-inflationary measures have been received by growers with great expectations, but the price controls are the main obstacle preventing an even better response.

Resources to face costs "came from somewhere," as one grower said. He believes that they came from sales of sunflowers, the help of cooperatives and reduced spending per hectare.

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ARGENTINA

UNUSUAL RAINFALL CONDITIONS DELAY WHEAT PLANTING

Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 17 Aug 85 p 4

[Text] During the month of July, plants need little water because of low prevailing temperatures. Consequently, there is generally enough water to meet their needs and still have a surplus throughout the eastern part of the region. However, in the west, there is generally no rainfall at all or it is scanty and inadequate.

In July 1985, the situation was completely abnormal, with excess rainfall in nearly the entire region analyzed, especially the provinces of Cordoba, La Pampa and northwestern Buenos Aires, where precipitation was very abundant. Normally, there is little or no rainfall.

As a result, the area including central and southern Cordoba, northwestern La Pampa and western Buenos Aires has considerable surpluses of water, which did not cause flooding only because of the drought of preceding months. Livestock is doing exceedingly well, while wheat planting was delayed, first by the lack of water and then by several days of heavy rainfall hindering normal planting activities.

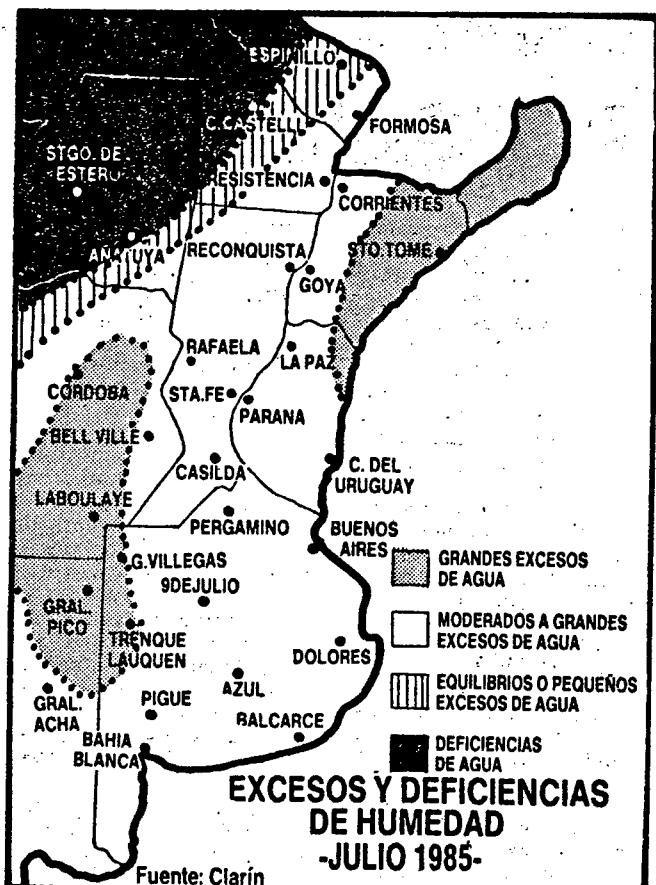
The area of central and eastern Corrientes and Misiones Province has substantial surpluses of water, which only produced temporary flooding in lowlying zones. However, this situation is normal for this season of the year.

The vast region including western Corrientes, eastern Chaco and Formosa, Santa Fe, southeastern Santiago del Estero, Entre Rios, northern and eastern Cordoba, southern La Pampa and Buenos Aires, except for the extreme northwestern zone, has surpluses varying in intensity depending on the region. Southern Buenos Aires has had high precipitation, although the exact zone cannot be outlined, given its irregularity. The situation is similar -- in other words, delayed planting of winter grain -- but the problem is being overcome.

The fringe including central and eastern Formosa, central Chaco and southeastern Santiago del Estero is totally normal and with no problems for agriculture or livestock.

The region including western Formosa and Chaco and northern and central Santiago del Estero has had a shortage of rainfall varying in intensity, typical of the region during this season of the year.

Excessive and Inadequate Moisture, July 1985



Key:

1. Great excesses of water
2. Moderate to great excesses
3. Balanced or some surplus rainfall
4. Shortage of water
5. Source: CLARIN

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BELIZE

PAPER DEFENDS UN-ENVOY-DESIGNATE AGAINST ACCUSATIONS

Belize City AMANDALA in English 16 Aug 85 p 2

[Editorial: "Our Perspective on the Tillett Appointment"]

[Text] There has been some opposition to the appointment of former Senator Kenneth Tillett to the post of Belize's Ambassador to the United Nations.

Most of the domestic dissent is based on the fact that he left Belize in 1980, "deserted the struggle," his detractors say, and the same criticism, to a more vague extent, has been applied to Belize's new Ambassador to the United States, Edward Laing.

While it is true that the ruling UDP in some cases has developed to a fine art the practice of ignoring people who performed and delivered during "crunch time" from 1979 to 1984, we find the criticisms of these appointments to be somewhat personal and small minded.

We are reminded of 1977 when local basketball officials and players refused to include Pulu Lightburn on a national team for the Medellin, Colombia games on the grounds that he had not played in the season just completed.

Clinton was Belize's best player, but he had been attending junior college in Tennessee that year. The local basketballers conveniently forgot that he had played brilliantly in many junior and senior seasons prior to that, and that he was the best.

They went to Colombia without Lightburn and gave up 235 points to Puerto Rico.

Now strictly speaking, the who voted against tak -

ing Lightburn were correct, but where the spirit of the situation was concerned, they were wrong, dead wrong. In fact, some of them were malicious.

Had it been the case, where the Tillett appointment was concerned, that his critics were pointing out that there were better, more qualified Belizeans for the post, this newspaper would have encouraged debate. (As a matter of fact, personally, we fear that Tillett may initially be too rigid and inflexible for the position, but he will learn.)

We cannot encourage, however, the desertion argument. Ken Tillett lost two bitter, exhausting elections in the Collet division, and his decision in 1980 was to preserve his family life rather than sacrifice it on the altar of politics.

Only those who have fought the PUP in its years of power can truly testify how much gutter politics they practised, how vicious, vulgar, scurrilous, and filthy were their tactics. But you can look around for yourself and see how many leading opponents of the PUP ended up with their homes smashed beyond repair. Even some leaders who persevered until victory in 1984 have that scar on their psyches - a broken home.

Ken Tillett was a decent man and he was a family man. In 1980, the only way to preserve his decency and his family was to leave Belize. Now he has come back to serve. The man should be given a chance. If you even concede that 1980 was a mistake, only those who are without mistakes can throw stones.

The bottom line is that he is a Belizean. So are all those brethren and sistren out there who were forced into exile during the cruel years of Papa George. Those people out there can help us with their skills and their experience. In return, we help them by presenting the solidarity we have achieved as a nation and the strength we have developed, like fine steel tempered under great heat.

CSO: 3298/1007

BELIZE

ESQUIVEL MEETS PRESS, DISCUSSES U.S., UK VISITS

Results of Talks in UK

Belize City THE BEACON in English 17 Aug 85 p 12

[Text]

In the forenoon of Wednesday, August 14, at Radio Belize, Prime Minister Esquivel held a press conference in which he spoke of his recent visits to the United States and the United Kingdom and in an opening statement highlighted some developments from them.

In the U.S. he met with potential investors and with representatives from Coca Cola and Howell Petroleum. He also attended a meeting of the International Democratic Union of political leaders.

In the U.K. the P.M. signed a 7.5 million pounds interest free loan, about 21 million Belize dollars. Other matters discussed were the con-

tinued presence of the British Forces and future organisation of Belize's Defence Force.

In answering questions on the use to be made of the 21 million dollars, Mr. Esquivel stated priority would be given to a new terminal for the International Airport. High on the list also was a new runway to accommodate bigger aircraft, as well as infra-structural and agricultural projects.

With Tate and Lyle officials he discussed the fate of those workers who had lost their jobs.

The government's position on the celebrations of September 10th (National Day) and 21st (Independence Day) was outlined.

Remarks on Domestic Issues

Belize City AMANDALA in English 16 Aug 85 p 3

[Excerpt]

Mr. Esquivel informed the gathering that Tate and Lyle had agreed to sell a thousand acres of land to former employees of the Liberia Sugar Factory. He went on to say that those employees who purchased the land would not have to start paying back until five years time.

Among other points raised by the Prime Minister was the appointment of a new Chief Justice. That, he said, will take several months.

Plans to abolish the income tax release tickets were under way but a new formula must be found.

The Prime Minister also said that the government had plans to create employment in all the districts but does not want to reveal them until they are certain.

At the beginning of the news conference, Mr. Esquivel spoke about the two September celebrations. He

said that the beauty pageant to select a candidate to represent Belize in the Miss Universe Contest will now be held in November.

The press conference was a lively one and Mr. Esquivel was in top form, answering questions in a very able manner.

CSO: 3298/1007

BELIZE

GOVERNMENT BAN ON PUP TV PROGRAM SPARKS CRITICISM

Silence of Local Press

Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 18 Aug 85 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] The UDP Government's unconstitutional ban on the PUP TV program "Our Turn" is an ominous attack on the freedom of expression and freedom of the press. If it is allowed to get away with this, other forms of censorship are not far distant, including censorship of the newspapers. Remember it is private TV stations, not the government owned radio, that have been forbidden by the UDP to transmit the program.

Certain newspapers are taking a very narrow-minded position on this issue. It is irrelevant that the PUP Administration passed the offensive regulation. If you like, blame the PUP for that. But don't, because you can't, use that to justify the UDP government's action--if it's wrong, it's wrong and the UDP's insistence on enforcing a bad regulation only testifies to its own repressive tendencies.

If one newspaper fails to condemn this harsh censorship, it is agreeing to a line of action that can easily be turned against it in the future.

Yet, the local press by its narrow minded party political approach happily stands by while the UDP tramples on the freedom of expression. Even the Supreme Court Order is being ignored by the UDP and they are insisting that the freedom guaranteed by the Constitution and upheld by the court should not be exercised. Surely no newspaper can ignore this serious threat.

Critique of Government's Action

Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 18 Aug 85 p 2

[Unsigned article: "Government Vs Constitution"]

[Text] The government's decision not to honour a Supreme Court ruling to allow the showing of the PUP sponsored programme "Our Turn" on private television is at once contemptuous and reprehensible. Former Chief Justice Moe's landmark decision upholding the applicants' right under provisions of Articles 12 and 16 of the Belize Constitution is now being openly flouted by the UDP Government.

This action by the government is a serious and flagrant violation of the sacred principles enshrined in the Constitution; principles which were meant to be protected, respected and upheld. It casts a dark cloud on the administration of justice, and taints those responsible for its enforcement.

As if this were not enough, the UDP government has vowed to pursue the case to the Privy Council in London if necessary, regardless of the cost of taxpayers. And this raises some very disturbing questions:

1. What in the programme 'Our Turn' could be so damaging to the UDP as to warrant such extreme actions?
2. Why is this government, which has publicly expressed support for freedom of expression, suppressing the effort of the opposition to exercise this basic right?
3. Why is government squandering its limited resources on costly court appeals for the right to trample on the human rights of its tax-paying citizens?

These and other questions will be debated in boardrooms, offices, factories, and other places of assembly in the coming weeks by concerned Belizeans. They will be demanding answers from a government which has become increasingly dictatorial, pompous, and immoral; a government which continues to squander its meager resources; a government that defies the Constitution and the Supreme Court of this country.

CSO: 3298/1006

BELIZE

PLANNING UNIT ISSUES FIGURES ON POPULATION, ECONOMY

Belize City THE BEACON in English 17 Aug 85 pp 4, 9

[Text]

A Pamphlet named "Belize in Figures, 1985" has been released by the Statistical Office of the Central Planning Unit in Belmopan.

The Pamphlet, produced by the Government Information Service covers a wide range of topics, and except for the population figures (which include the year 1980) takes in the years 1981 to 1984. The subjects included are Population and Vital Statistics, Education, Overseas Trade, Agricultural Production, Manufacturing Production, Movements in the Economy and some miscellaneous facts.

The total population is put at 162,100 with the 15 to 65 years group the

largest (49.7%) and the 65 years and over group the smallest (5.1%), which still leaves a whooping 45.2% in the group 14 years and under. The most startling revelations may be the fact that there are more males than females in Belize - 82,000 to 80,000; that the birth rate has actually fallen from 43.1 per 1,000 of the population in 1980 to 38.0; and that a dramatic fall in marriages - 1,028 in 1983 to 854 in 1984 has been accompanied by an increase of 1,000 in households from 30,000 to 31,000.

We publish along with this article a table of the statistics for public information.

BELIZE IN FIGURES

| | 1980 | 1981r | 1982r | 1983r | 1984p |
|--|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|--|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|

1. Population and Vital Statistics

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total Population (thousand) | 145.4 | 149.4 | 153.4 | 157.7 | 162.1 |
| Districts: Belize | 50.8 | 51.0 | 51.8 | 52.3 | 53.8 |
| Cayo | 22.8 | 23.8 | 24.8 | 25.8 | 26.5 |
| Orange Walk | 22.9 | 23.8 | 24.3 | 25.1 | 25.8 |
| Corozal | 22.9 | 24.2 | 25.0 | 26.1 | 26.8 |
| Toledo | 11.8 | 12.1 | 12.5 | 12.9 | 13.3 |
| Stann Creek | 14.2 | 14.5 | 15.0 | 15.5 | 15.9 |
| Sex: Male | 73.6 | 75.7 | 77.7 | 79.9 | 82.0 |
| Female | 71.8 | 73.7 | 75.7 | 77.8 | 80.0 |

Percentage of Population

| | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| Age 14 years and under | 46.1 | 46.1 | 46.0 | 46.0 | 45.2 |
| Between 15 and 64 years | 49.2 | 49.2 | 49.3 | 48.5 | 49.7 |
| 65 years and over | 4.7 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 5.5 | 5.1 |
| Population Density (per square mile) | 16.4 | 16.8 | 17.3 | 17.8 | 18.3 |
| Birth Rate (per 1000 population) | 43.1 | 38.9 | 38.4 | 38.6 | 38.0 |
| Death Rate (per 1000 population) | 4.9 | 4.7 | 4.0 | 4.2 | 4.9 |
| Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births) | 30.2 | 27.4 | 20.9 | 23.2 | 23.4 |
| Marriages (number) | 907 | 957 | 957 | 1028 | 854 |
| Households (thousand) | 28.1 | 28.5 | 29.0 | 30.0 | 31.0 |
| Persons per Household (average) | 5.2 | 5.2 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 5.2 |

| | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 |
|--|------|------|------|------|
|--|------|------|------|------|

2. Education

Number of Schools

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Primary | 197 | 196 | 199 | 223 |
| Secondary | 22 | 22 | 22 | 24 |

| <i>Other (Belcast) Sixth Form, Agricultural School, Nurse's School etc.)</i> | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Enrolment | | | | |
| Primary | 34604 | 35081 | 36239 | 37753 |
| Secondary | 6298 | 6289 | 6396 | 6511 |
| Other | 375 | 469 | 526 | 761 |
| Sex Ratio (Male/Female) | | | | |
| Primary | 1.04 | 1.04 | 1.05 | 1.04 |
| Secondary | 0.86 | 0.85 | 0.82 | 0.85 |
| Number of Teachers (excluding part time) | | | | |
| Primary | 1438 | 1468 | | 1515 |
| Secondary | 345 | 352 | 415 | 474 |
| Other | 32 | 33 | 36 | 58 |
| Teachers' Qualifications (Secondary) | | | | |
| University Degree | 82 | 88 | 93 | 93 |
| Degree with Teachers' Diploma/Certificate | 60 | 56 | 96 | 108 |
| Training College Diploma/Certificate | 87 | 84 | 79 | 87 |
| Other Non-graduates | 148 | 157 | 208 | 215 |
| 3. Overseas Trade (million BZ\$) | | | | |
| Gross Imports | 323.9 | 256.0 | 223.6 | 258.4 |
| Gross Exports | 238.0 | 182.0 | 155.5 | 188.6 |
| Balance of Trade | -85.9 | -74.0 | -68.1 | -69.8 |
| Re-exports | 88.5 | 62.4 | 25.2 | 46.2 |
| Domestic Exports | 149.5 | 119.6 | 130.3 | 142.3 |
| Retained Imports | 235.3 | 193.6 | 198.4 | 212.2 |

| | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Major Domestic Exports (million BZ\$) | | | | |
| Sugar | 85.3 | 65.7 | 68.3 | 65.1 |
| Molasses | 2.4 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.3 |
| Bananas | 4.3 | 4.2 | 4.8 | 6.1 |
| Citrus Products | 13.0 | 14.1 | 13.7 | 19.5 |
| Fish Products | 14.4 | 12.6 | 13.9 | 11.8 |
| Timber | 2.6 | 3.8 | 2.7 | 2.1 |
| Garments | 22.1 | 12.7 | 16.8 | 29.6 |
| Honey | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| 4. Agricultural Production | | | | |
| Major Commodities | | | | |
| Sugar Cane ('000 tons) | 970.1 | 1059 | 1132 | 1041 |
| Bananas ('000 42lb boxes) | 549.3 | 524 | 531 | 523 |
| Oranges ('000 90lb boxes) | 1063 | 1065 | 750 | 1124 |
| Grapefruit ('000 80lb boxes) | 586 | 703 | 178 | 344 |
| Rice Paddy (million lbs) | 23.9 | 17.8 | 13.5 | 10.8 |
| Corn (million lbs) | 47.0 | 47.0 | 38.8 | 34.7 |
| RK Beans (million lbs) | 3.8 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 1.6 |
| Beef (million lbs) | 2.2 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Honey ('000 lbs) | 483 | 440 | 543 | 624 |
| 5. Manufacturing Production | | | | |
| Major Commodities | | | | |
| Sugar ('000 tons) | 97.7 | 106.0 | 114.3 | 103.1 |
| Molasses ('000 tons) | 32.0 | 35.1 | 36.6 | 33.5 |
| Cigarettes (million) | 68.3 | 56.0 | 57.4 | 64.6 |
| Beer ('000 gallons) | 889 | 818 | 850 | 630 |
| Batteries (units) | 4500 | 4836 | 5000 | 5555 |
| Flour (wheat) ('000 lbs) | 9100 | 10900 | 10992 | 2528 |
| Fertilizer (tons) | 4300 | 3600 | 3080 | 4641 |
| Garments ('000) | 1200 | 577 | 781 | 1966 |
| Rum (gallons) | 5850 | 4552 | 4850 | 4300 |

| | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 6. Movements in the Economy | | | | |
| GDP per capita (BZ\$) | 2095 | 1928 | 1955 | 1943 |
| GDP current prices (million BZ\$) | 313.0 | 295.8 | 308.3 | 314.7 |
| GDP 1973 Prices (million BZ\$) | 130.8 | 129.6 | 130.6 | 132.3 |
| By Sector (1973 prices) | | | | |
| Agriculture | 24.6 | 25.6 | 26.3 | 25.4 |
| Forestry | 2.2 | 4.0 | 2.7 | 2.6 |
| Fishing | 3.9 | 3.8 | 4.8 | 4.6 |
| Mining | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Manufacturing | 12.9 | 12.3 | 12.6 | 13.6 |
| Electricity & Water | 1.7 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.2 |
| Construction | 11.5 | 9.2 | 9.5 | 10.4 |
| Trade, Restaurants etc. | 21.7 | 19.5 | 19.0 | 19.4 |
| Transport, Communications etc. | 13.9 | 14.2 | 14.5 | 15.0 |
| Financing and Insurance | 7.4 | 7.4 | 7.5 | 7.5 |
| Real Estate Dwellings, etc. | 9.1 | 9.3 | 9.3 | 9.3 |
| Public Administration | 14.1 | 14.0 | 14.0 | 14.1 |
| Community and Other Services | 12.8 | 13.1 | 13.1 | 13.2 |
| Less Banking Service Charges | 5.5 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 5.4 |
| Consumer Price Index (total) | 119.9 | 128.1 | 136.9 | 144.6 |

7. Miscellaneous

| | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Aircraft Movements ('000) B.I.A. | 23.6 | 23.9 | 23.8 | 24.8 |
| Passenger Movements ('000) B.I.A. | 169.2 | 260.2 | 291.0 | 284.0 |
| Electricity Consumers ('000) | 18.7 | 18.8 | 19.2 | 19.6 |
| Telephone Subscribers ('000) | 4.6 | 6.2 | 6.1 | 7.3 |
| Water Supply Connections ('000) | 10.7 | 11.0 | 11.3 | 12.2 |
| Number of Hotels | 144 | 141 | 150 | 153 |
| Number of Vehicles licensed (all kinds) | 9657 | 8127 | 9796 | 9181 |
| Number of Traffic Accidents | 513 | 407 | 629 | 514 |
| Registered Hospital Beds | 556 | 578 | 576 | 559 |
| Registered Medical Doctors | 55 | 75 | 76 | 78 |

Footnotes:—

- e — estimated
- NA — not available
- p — provisional
- B.I.A. — Belize International Airport
- r — revised
- C.P.I. — 1980 = 100

BELIZE

PAPER QUERIES USE OF BRITISH TROOPS IN ANTIDRUG DRIVE

Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 18 Aug 85 pp 1, 12

[Article by Henry Stanhope]

[Text] Britain's military garrison in Belize is to play a big part in helping local troops halt the illegal drug traffic.

Its radar will be used to detect smugglers' light aircraft, and explosives will be made available for the Belize Defence Force to blow up the jungle airstrips which the smugglers use, the Belize Prime Minister, Mr Manuel Esquivel, announced in London yesterday.

British Army helicopters will help to ferry men from the local security forces to outlying areas of Belize (formerly British Honduras).

Mr Esquivel told a press conference that some limited help was already being provided by the 1,800-strong garrison. But Mrs Margaret Thatcher and her ministers had promised more substantial aid during his three days of talks in London.

Mr Esquivel, whose right-of-centre United Democratic Party won 21 of 28 parliamentary seats in last year's general election, was sceptical of American claims that Belize was now the fourth largest source of marijuana reaching the United States.

He discounted a suggestion that the marijuana trade was contributing to the country's gross national product. But he admitted that it constituted a considerable problem for his government.

He said he was "more comfortable" after his talks in London about Britain's undertaking to keep the garrison in Belize "for as long as is appropriate."

His government was awaiting the result of elections in Guatemala in November before assessing the prospect of new talks with a Guatemalan Government over its claims to Belize territory.

The accompanying story from the London TIMES of Friday, 2 August 1985, raises some fundamental and interesting points. We have always understood that UK troops were here since independence strictly and solely as a defense force against a possible Guatemalan aggression.

Now it seems that their powers are being significantly expanded to encompass the drive against drug cultivation and trafficking. We need to know how far their powers will go. Will they have powers of questioning Belizeans, powers to arrest, the right to shoot? Will their police powers perhaps be extended beyond drugs to crimes? What exactly is the status of the British forces here now? How much are they collaborating with DEA officials and U.S. marshalls active here. Will our own soldiers and police be under orders from both British and U.S. forces?

We are not saying that any help from the British against drug trafficking is bad. We are saying that the Belizean people have a right to know what is going on.

Esquivel tells the British people why doesn't he tell his own?

CSO: 3298/1006

BELIZE

AMANDALA CLAIMS PRICE HAS 'LOST CONTROL' OF BELIZE TIMES

Belize City AMANDALA in English 16 Aug 85 p 1

[With Editor's Note]

[Text] BELIZE CITY, Fri. Aug. 16
Our intelligence sources say that former Prime Minister George Price has lost financial control of THE BELIZE TIMES, considered the official organ of the People's United Party. THE BELIZE TIMES may now be the organ of the Said Musa-led PUP left wing.

They say that former Deputy Prime Minister C.L.B. Rogers continues to ail with blood pressure and complications, and is a non-force, except for consultation purposes, in the PUP.

In addition, our sources indicate that PUP House Leader Florencio Marin is about to defect from the PUP to form a northern party comprising leaders from both Corozal and Orange Walk.

The Briceño faction, which controlled Orange Walk, remains in confusion and shock following their leader's drug conviction in North Carolina, and our sources say the Urbina faction, led by former representative and Senator Elito, has been quietly preparing to flex its muscles in Orange Walk.

Our sources seem to believe that the PUP left, Musa/Shoman/Courtenay, will take the bull by the horns and form their own party with open Havana and Managua connections.

So all indications are that the once monolithic and ruling People's United Party is now in an extreme state of flux, at the very least; at worst, the PUP's death knell is sounding in the distance.

Incidentally, some of those impudent questions being asked of the Prime Minister at his press conference by Ray Lightburn are under instruction. Lightburn is now on Musa's payroll, our sources say.

/Editor's Note: The 18 August 1985 edition of THE BELIZE TIMES carries its masthead on page 2 as follows: Manager, Hamid Musa; Editor, Amalia Mai; Lithographer, Doreth Evans; Compositor, Virginia Smith,/

CSO: 3298/1007

BELIZE

BRIEFS

IDB ELECTRICITY LOAN--The Inter-American Development Bank last month announced the approval of a \$16.1 million loan to help rehabilitate the Guyana Electricity Corporation (GEC). The rehabilitation programme is designed to increase the amount and reliability of the electricity available to the country by restoring the principal generating facilities of GEC, Guyana's national agency, to nearly their original capacity. An estimated 500,000 of Guyana's total population of some 800,000 persons have access to electricity. GEC owns and operates the bulk of the country's generating facilities. These serve [text missing] [Excerpt] [Belize City THE BEACON in English 17 Aug 85 p 10]

CSO: 3298/1008

CHILE

COMMANDER DENIES CRIMINAL ACCUSATIONS AGAINST CARABINEROS

Santiago COSAS in Spanish 30 May 85 pp 8-10

[Interview with General Carlos Donoso Perez, director of Order and Security, by Raquel Correa; date and place not given]

[Text] The general is shrewd and alert of gaze, with very brilliant and penetrating eyes, as well as quick thinking. And he speaks readily, resembling a lawyer more than a man in military command. He says that justice is what he likes best, and for this reason he chose to be a Carabinero. His only superiors are Generals Mendoza, Stange and Alegria. He heads the National Traffic Education Committee and is in command of the Office of Order and Security, the famous Carabineros O.S., Sections 1 to 7, no more and no less. He was willing to be interviewed without requiring a questionnaire, reviewing the subject matter or limiting questions. He knew very well what the public interest was. He was very familiar with each tale, each rumor, each suspicion which had spread to the most remote corner of the country since that morning during Holy Week when the bodies of Jose Manuel Parada, Manuel Guerrero and Santiago Nattino were found there in Quilicura.

[Question] General, I will ask you directly what everyone is asking. What responsibility do the Carabineros bear for the kidnapping and murder of Parada, Guerrero and Nattino?

It could be said that this was precisely the question General Carlos Donoso Perez, Order and Security director, expected. He answered in a calm voice, looking me directly in the eye.

[Answer] There is not thus far any proof, or any well-founded suspicion, that Carabineros personnel were involved in this crime. If any were involved, there is not the slightest doubt that the investigating judge would have taken the pertinent legal steps.

[Question] You mean disqualifying himself and turning them over to the military court authorities?

[Answer] First making arrests and filing charges, and then effecting a transfer to the military court. As none of this has occurred, we believe that the judge still has no evidence which would link our personnel with the crime.

[Question] Have you investigated the possibility, General?

[Answer] Internally, there is always an investigation, because we want to be certain.

[Question] Have other institutions such as the Criminal Investigation Department, the army and the navy also made internal investigations?

[Answer] I imagine so. But I can only answer for us. We always do this when there is a crime in which it is possible that some of our personnel may have been involved, so that we can be completely sure. Now if the court orders us to undertake a general investigation, we will do so.

[Question] In this case, I believe that this has been ordered, and that memoranda have been sent to the Carabineros and the National Information Center (CNI).

[Answer] This is a part of the secret proceedings. The important thing is that the judge is working with the Criminal Investigation Department on this matter.

[Question] But not with the CNI. Or the Carabineros either?

[Answer] To date, we have not been asked for any specific measures.

[Question] This seems very shrewd, General. Doesn't it seem to you suspicious?

[Answer] No, not suspicious at all. The business of criminal investigation is to investigate. The judge is within his rights in choosing the establishment with which he wants to work.

Sworn Oath

[Question] General, in your first answer you said that "there is not the slightest doubt that the investigating judge would have taken the pertinent legal steps." But there is indeed unproved suspicion....

[Answer] Charges without foundation would be a kind of prejudgment.

[Question] General, would you swear on oath that no member of the Carabineros was involved in this crime?

[Answer] My personal conviction, subject, of course, to the possibility of proof to the contrary, is that none of our personnel were involved in this crime. As there have been many rumors, I believe that there are people who in good faith may believe that our personnel played some role in it. But I repeat that my personal conviction is that this is not true.

[Question] In the rumors which have circulated on all levels, names have even been mentioned.

[Answer] If this is true, if there really were people identified by name as possibly involved, they would already have been arrested.

[Question] It has been said that those responsible are no longer in Chile.

[Answer] Let them say who they are. Let them say! If they know so much, if they have names, if they know these people have left Chile, let them tell Judge Canovas, and I am sure he will be very grateful for all this information. What is happening is that rumors are being nurtured. Rumors have been widespread recently, very widespread.

[Question] Could this be because of the restrictions on the press, General?

[Answer] I do not believe so. Rumors are very widespread, and the individuals affected by rumors are in a way defenseless, because there is no one to whom to deny these criminal slanders and insults, since no one knows exactly who is circulating them. Thus rumors reduce the responsibility of those come forth as the presumed accusers. They do not show their faces, which is very convenient for them, when the honest thing would be, if they know something, to make it known to the proper authorities. This would be the correct and desirable and suitable thing in order to achieve the goal of ensuring justice.

[Question] Very early on, it was said that 11 Carabineros had been arrested. It was said that they served in bodies which the public did not even know existed, such as the Carabineros Communications Office (DICOMCAR), the Special Operations Group (GOPE), and more particularly the O.S.7.

[Answer] There is great confusion here. First of all let us clear up the doubt. There never were any 11 detainees. The judge, who is the most reliable source, can confirm this.

[Question] It was said--there were even international news service cables sent abroad to this effect--that they were being held at the Criminal Investigation barracks.

[Answer] It is false, absolutely false, that any Carabineros were arrested in this connection. Never! None. Not a single one! Thus everything said to the contrary is false. The business of the news cables does not surprise me at all, because I have seen some of the most curious dispatches, in which the facts were twisted, and I believe that this is not done in any good faith.

[Question] Then you are saying that there were not 11, not 10, not 9, not a single Carabinero arrested for these murders?

[Answer] I am telling you categorically that there was not a single one. Not one! As to the DICOMCAR, there is nothing secret about it. It is the Carabineros Communications and Information Office. Anyone at all can know of its existence.

[Question] Is it an intelligence service?

[Answer] We could say that it is. All institutions have this type of body. We all need information for our own professional tasks--the professional tasks of the Carabineros, in the overall view, of course. Nor is there anything mysterious or dark about the Office of Order and Security.

[Question] What about the GOPE? Are these the "gurkas"?

[Answer] No, no, no. These are our highly trained personnel specializing in particular in rescue operations. They may save lives on the seacoast, during the summertime, as well as evacuating buildings or freeing hostages. There is not anything secret about this either, and all uniformed police establishments in the world have this kind of personnel. What would the citizenry say if an embassy were to be seized, or a number of hostages were taken, and we were to respond that we had no personnel to participate in rescue work of this kind?

The O.S.7

[Question] Rumor has it that the O.S.7 has been involved since this tragedy began. It has been said that the possible consumption of drugs at the Latin American High School, where Parada and Guerrera were held, was being investigated.

[Answer] False. We have never pursued any investigation at the Latin American High School! Nor have we received any reports with regard to drugs. Moreover, in order to pursue this type of investigation, these bodies have to request the pertinent orders.

[Question] In one daily newspaper, there was a report that witnesses say an O.S.7 unit came to a building near that school and asked for permission to observe the establishment from that vantage point, because they were investigating the possibility of drug traffic.

[Answer] Who says that these were Carabineros? That is the first question I would ask you. No one has been able to ascertain that those who were presumably involved there investigating drug problems were Carabineros personnel. This is nothing but yet another rumor among the many which have been circulated. Probably it was based on the article which appeared in the daily newspaper LA SEGUNDA concerning two witnesses, one of whom reported having been told by one of the presumed kidnappers that he belonged to the drug section of O.S.7. If anyone were preparing to commit a criminal act, the last thing he would do, unless he wanted to be restrained, would be to identify himself. What is of interest is that the person who made this statement was indeed very familiar with the structure of the O.S.7. It does in fact have five sections, one of which is engaged in investigating drug consumption.

[Question] General, you should be informed that some of these rumors are not just dinner table speculation, but have as their source high authorities in police or security departments or bodies.

[Answer] If in fact some responsible body or institution has reason to believe that Carabineros personnel were involved, the least that should be done, for reasons of a legal nature, in terms of professional ethics and because it affects justice, is to report it. If the Carabineros as an institution knew who was responsible, there is not the slightest doubt that we would have reported it. This is equally true if our own personnel or others were involved. As has already been done on other occasions, as in the case of the so-called Vina Del Mar psychopaths, we Carabineros would prefer embarrassment once to cowardly actions, because our institution is solid, respectable and responsible enough that an incident of this sort, serious and reprehensible though it would be, could not shake its foundations. I have not the slightest doubt that if our people had been involved, we would have turned them over to the authorities. And if we had known of the involvement of personnel from another body, we would have turned them over as well.

[Question] It is also said that there is great rivalry among the Carabineros, the Criminal Investigation Department and the CNI, which would explain some of the rumors.

[Answer] I do not believe so. These institutions are sufficiently mature--they are not athletic clubs--and they are headed by responsible and highly competent individuals. The only possible rivalry is that each wants to perform the best, and this is a rivalry which is very good for the country.

Full Clarification

[Question] How far have your own deductions gone, General?

[Answer] An individual with a clear sense of his own responsibility cannot prejudge. As I have no evidence, I cannot voice any suspicions.

[Question] But it is notable that the protagonists in this most serious case acted in the full light of day, using vehicles with heavy-duty antennas, and they had a great deal of information such as intelligence personnel would have, as was made clear by the testimony of the survivors of the AGECH kidnapping. Could it have been a paramilitary group, an anticomunist commando unit, or...?

[Answer] Why limit your thinking to this range and no further? What about the possibility that it was the product of internal disagreement?

[Question] There is not much logic there.

[Answer] Not much logic is required. I am only thinking that for some people, the end justifies the means.

[Question] The surviving kidnap victims said they were held in a place where vehicles arrived and departed at the curfew hour.

[Answer] What would that place be? In addition, have you gone out on the street during the curfew hours? Every night we arrest people who are out

after curfew. In addition, many people violate the rule but, as is not surprising, are not arrested.

[Question] There is also the case of the kidnapping of Carmen Andrea Hales, who was driven to "a place on Las Condes, between Kennedy and Vitacura." Do you know of a place which that might describe, General?

[Answer] If you are referring to the Las Tranqueras Commissariat, I am very familiar with it. It was built in 1970, and I was the first commissioner there.

[Question] It has a large entrance door and floor areas of coarse sand?

[Answer] The door, yes, but no sand flooring. And who could imagine that the kidnappers would take a victim at 9 or so in the morning to a public headquarters, where so many people come and go? This is a police station with the classic characteristics of a headquarters, and many people inside. This would be the last place they would take....

[Question] Unless the group had its operational center here.

[Answer] No. That is not the case. This is an ordinary regular Carabineros unit engaged in very specific tasks. There is not even the most remote possibility that this could be the place where Miss Hales might have been held. There are no secrets there, nothing sordid. No cellars, nothing!

[Question] Tell me, General, since you know the neighborhood well, is Las Tranqueras or Commissariat No 17 the only headquarters in that area?

[Answer] No. As far as I know, there are some others nearby.

[Question] Belonging to the Carabineros?

[Answer] No. The Carabineros have only Las Tranqueras in that area.

[Question] Another factor which contributed to pointing suspicion at the Carabineros is that there are five former agents who were arrested and expelled for using unnecessary violence, while five others--two commissioned and three noncommissioned officers--have been summoned to appear before the investigating judge.

[Answer] The first case you mentioned was announced publicly by the Carabineros. A habitual criminal stole a bicycle from the son of a corporal, and he and two of his comrades arrested the thief. They used physical force on him. We established this, and as we always do in such cases, we dismissed the culprits from the corps and turned them over to the court. With regard to the other case you described to me, the judge summoned these five or six Carabineros who were arrested in March of this year in Puente Alto for violations of the Internal Security Law, to give testimony. They are being tried by the military courts.

[Question] What relation is there between this case and the AGECH kidnappings?

[Answer] None. I think that thanks to speculation.... But in reality, I do not know, it is part of the secret proceedings. In any case, it has nothing to do with the central incident. All of those people have returned to their detachment and are pursuing their normal duties.

[Question] Finally, General, you can say that not a single Carabinero was involved, because as soon as something is discovered, dismissal follows....

[Answer] Not a single Carabinero has been dismissed in connection with the AGECH case!

Interested Parties

[Question] General, is there not a risk that your personnel have been so indoctrinated that some might go so far as to fantasize, and, using the logic of war, think that the Marxists are enemies who must be eliminated?

[Answer] The citizens demand a great deal of the Carabinero--that he be brave, honest, loyal, educated. And we try to train our men so that they will approach this ideal as closely as possible. Our people are carefully selected and well-trained.

[Question] However, there have been cases....

[Answer] Naturally. In our history of more than 50 years, we have had more than one problem. But these are rare exceptions and we are the first to report them, because it is we who are most interested in keeping this institution as honest as possible. In the specific case about which you have asked me--the kidnapping and murder of these three persons--I personally find myself among those most interested in clarification. Our institution has a tremendous, honest and serious interest in clarification of this case.

[Question] Because you feel affected?

[Answer] Of course we do! Because we are persuaded that false charges are being made against us. And the Carabineros of Chile do not deserve this, but rather deserve the confidence of the citizens. Every day we give clear proof that our task is above all to be a protective, guarding institution. It is not just a matter of delinquent children.

[Question] I suggested the possibility that some individuals might fantasize....

[Answer] I can only answer for the Carabineros. We have not changed the training of our personnel on any level. For us the enemy will always be the criminal, in whatever form, independent of what political connotations such a criminal might have. And, where the Carabineros are concerned, the criminal is not so much an enemy as an adversary who, because of the legal provisions, we must turn over to the courts, rather than eliminating him. The Carabinero

knows perfectly well when and how the law authorizes him to use weapons-- basically in self-defense and in defense of third persons. Thus there are no fanatics in our ranks, but rather professionals aware of what their duty is, and also very much aware of the responsibilities they incur if they make improper use of the authority given them.

5157

CSO: 8148/2024

CHILE

VICE ADMIRAL VOICES SUPPORT TO CARDINAL FRESNO

PY140018 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Sep 85

[Text] Vice Admiral Oscar Bucetta Munoz, retired, has published a letter he sent to Cardinal Archbishop of Santiago, Msgr Juan Francisco Fresno. Portions of the letter state:

Your Excellency Cardinal: The catholic faith and the undismissable civic duty of all Chileans and of this admiral in this hour of so many worries, makes me write to Your Excellency to publicly express my total solidarity with the national episcopate and my unconditional support to the calls of Your Excellency made to Chileans for a reconciliation and for the rejection of all types of violence.

The retired admiral then added: On learning about the National Accord for the Transition to Full Democracy, which is the first concrete result of your initiative for a national accord, my confidence in the prudence of the Chilean people--which is often interpreted maliciously by some--has been renewed.

The vice admiral adds: With that same spirit, I am pleased to express to Your Excellency my total adherence to the document National Accord for the Transition to Full Democracy.

The letter concludes in this manner: Your Excellency Cardinal: Expressing full solidarity with the church and its leaders, I am delighted to express to you my total solidarity with the difficult task you have undertaken. I believe that with this I am conveying the feeling of other catholic admirals who, due to the current circumstances, are unable to express themselves publicly.

May Your Excellency receive the respect and affection of this son.

Signed: Oscar Bucetta Munoz, Vice Admiral.

CSO: 3348/966

CHILE

PCCH ADDRESSES LETTER TO ARCHBISHOP FRESNO

PY160247 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0150 GMT 14 Sep 85

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 13 Sep (EFE)--The Chilean Communist Party [PCCh] has addressed a letter to Cardinal Juan Francisco Fresno, the archbishop of Santiago, proposing an important step for the National Accord, which does not exclude any party, against General Augusto Pinochet's regime.

In the text of the letter, which was published today in an extraordinary issue of the clandestine newspaper EL SIGLO, the PPCh proposed that Cardinal Fresno should sponsor an open meeting of all of us who are willing to implement the immediate measures that are contained in the document that you have released to the public.

The document to which the PCCh is referring is the "National Accord for the Transition to Full Democracy," which with Fresno's support was signed on 25 August by 11 organizations from the right, center, and part of the left. The immediate measures include the holding of a plebiscite.

The opposition's initiative, which has received the support of a great majority of Chilean political organizations and the positive judgment of the U.S. State Department and of the EEC Foreign Ministers Council, has been rejected by the Chilean military regime.

The PCCh explains to the cardinal that it values every effort that is made in search of democracy, although we believe that the document that has been published has serious omissions and that it contains ideas that we cannot share, which is why we have not signed it.

The PCCh letter to the Chilean archbishop, the promoter of the National Accord, concludes by saying that we have confidence that you will accept these suggestions, which we believe will be an important step for the nonexclusion accord, and that the catholic church and must play an important role in achieving its goals.

CSO: 3348/966

CHILE

APSI REPORTER BEATEN, TAKEN TO HOSPITAL

PY162149 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1416 GMT 16 Sep 85

[Text] Santiago, 16 Sep (EFE)--Reporter Elizabeth Subercaseaux, of the opposition magazine APSI, today was beaten by two unidentified individuals at the door of her house. The two individuals escaped after the attack.

Subercaseaux and the entire APSI staff had been threatened earlier by anonymous telephone calls.

Subercaseaux suffered injuries to her face and body and had to be taken to a Santiago hospital.

According to APSI directors, the attackers waited until they were certain that the reporter was alone in the house before ringing her bell. When she opened the door the attackers struck, beating her over her entire body.

Sergio Marras, acting director of the magazine, will request court action for the protection of the attacked reporter.

In the magazine's most recent issue, Elizabeth Subercaseaux interviewed Andres Zaldivar, world president of Christian Democracy [title as received], in an article entitled "Pinochet Is Leading Us to Civil War."

CSO: 3348/966

CHILE

CORRESPONDENT FOR FRENCH MAGAZINE RELEASED

PY161949 Paris AFP in Spanish 1632 GMT 16 Sep 85

[Text] Santiago, 16 Sep (AFP)--Pablo Slachevsky Chonchol, correspondent in Chile for the French magazine CHRISTIAN TESTIMONY, was freed by the police today. Court sources reported that the correspondent had been detained for 9 days through a decision of General Augusto Pinochet's government.

Slachevsky, who is a journalism student at the University of Chile, was arrested by agents of the National Intelligence Center (CNI), the secret police of the military regime, on 7 September, together with 64 other people. They were all detained in the central police barracks.

The Students Federation of the University of Chile (FECH) said in a communique, that the magazine correspondent was arrested by CNI agents for supposedly making a recording together with other newsmen, in the Lo Hermida neighborhood in Santiago, while the residents clashed with combined Army and police forces.

The newsman was freed together with 10 other people, out of a total of 46 who were being held in the cells of the General Investigations Directorate, the Civil Police.

CSO: 3348/966

CHILE

BRIEFS

GROWTH REACHES 1.7 PERCENT--Economic authorities have reported that the economy has grown 1.7 percent during the first half of the year, and claim that it will reach 2 percent during the year. Today, the Central Bank released a report in which it assesses the development of the economic activity this year and the prospects for the remaining months of 1985. The most active sectors this year are those of agriculture with an increase of 7 percent and construction with 11 percent. The mining sector, however, has experienced a drop of 3.3 percent. This is due mainly to the drop in prices of export products such as copper. The industrial sector has had a moderate growth of 1.5 percent during the first half of the year. The Central Bank report states that the growth of the economic activity during the first half of 1986 is quite satisfactory, considering the drop in prices of the main export products. He added that forcing a more accelerated reactivation would be highly inappropriate and would necessitate an admustment sooner or later, unless favorable changes occurred in the Chilean economy. [Text] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Sep 85 PY]

MINISTRY REQUESTS MENSAJE TRIAL--The Interior Ministry has requested that Renato Hevia, the director of the magazine MENSAJE, be tried for various breaches of the State Security Law. The request was made to the Court of Appeals after prosecutor (Marco Lidevinski) decided to close the legal inquiry since he decided that the investigations had not warranted any detentions. The Interior Ministry then asked Judge (Lidevinski) that the MENSAJE director be questioned, but the request was refused. This new request to the Court of Appeals was made following the refusal, and the court will make its final decision in the next few days. In its request, the Interior Ministry accuses the magazine MENSAJE of having broken numerous rules of the State Security Law in various articles. [Text] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Sep 85 PY]

35 PROTESTERS ARRESTED IN CHILE--In Chile, General Augusto Pinochet's military regime today arrested 35 people accused of instigating or participating in protests activities recently held in Santiago de Chile. Those arrested were taken to Chile's desert and inhospitable northern region located between 2,000 and 700 km from the capital. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 17 Sep 85 FL]

CSO: 3348/966

DOMINICA

GOVERNMENT REFUTES UNION CLAIM OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 18 Aug 85 p 30

[Text]

Roseau, Dominica, Aug 17, Cana:

The Dominica Government has denounced a recent statement by a local trade union claiming there had been a wave of victimization and human rights abuses here.

Legal Affairs Minister Brian Alleyne told Parliament that the statement had been made by the President-General of the National Workers Union (NWU) Rawlins Jemmott at a conference in Havana of Latin American and Caribbean trade unions on the region's huge foreign debt.

Alleyne said that Jemmott had during the conference claimed that in the last four years since the Eugenia Charles administration came to power the island's big trade union's had displayed a timidity uncharacteristic of previous years.

The union released the text of Jemmott's speech to the conference in which reference was made to high unemployment, "a wave of victimization, anti-labour legislation, human rights abuse," amongst other charges.

Alleyne described the speech as "nonsense" and charged that the union's motive was to cause confusion among the population.

DOMINICA

GOVERNMENT ENDS BROADCASTS OF PARLIAMENT; OPPOSITION OBJECTS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 20 Aug 85 p 17

[Text]

Roseau, Dominica, Aug 16, Cana

The Dominica government's decision to end an eight-year-old practice of broadcasting live on radio the debates of parliament has angered the official opposition here.

In fact the Dominica Labour Party (DLP), which has five of the 21 seats in the house, says it's preparing to mount an island-wide campaign to pressure the Eugenia Charles administration to change its mind.

The government's decision came home forcibly to the DLP Wednesday when, following Monday's live broadcast of the 1985 budget presented to parliament by Prime Minister Eugenia Charles, it was announced that the opposition's reply would be recorded and carried later on the state-run Dominica Broadcasting Corporation.

Government officials are saying that the budget presentation should not be seen as something politically partisan, but as more of a national policy statement. But the DLP is demanding equal treatment with the ruling Dominica Freedom Party (DFP), which was returned to power for a second five year term in July 1 general elections here.

Last month Prime Minister Charles told reporters her party would be submitting to the parliamentary broadcast committee, when it is appointed, a resolution calling for the curtailing the live broadcasting of parliamentary debates.

"Our party is taking the line that the entire proceedings of the house should not be broadcast live. It is something only Dominica does. I will suggest that to the parliamentary committee when it is appointed," she said then.

The committee, set up by legislation in 1974, is made of up the speaker of parliament, the attorney general or a member of his staff, the public relations officer of the government, and two elected parliamentarians, appointed by the house from among the parties represented therein.

The opposition is charging that since no new parliamentary committee has yet been formed for this current sitting of parliament, the DLP should have been afforded the same live broadcast privilege as Prime Minister Charles in the budget presentation.

"I want to warn you, we don't know at this point in time where the end of this thing is going to be," declared an angry DLP leader Michael Douglas at a public meeting here last night.

"One thing I can promise Eugenia Charles; while this labour party has the mandate given to it by 13,000 Dominicans this labour party will defend vigorously the rights of parliamentarians to be heard live over DBS radio," added Douglas, who is parliamentary opposition leader.

The opposition stormed out of parliament Wednesday at the start of the budget debate after being told that the radio station would not be carrying the proceedings live.

The broadcasting legislation also declares that the radio station could only carry live broadcasts of parliament under "conditions laid down by the [word indistinct].

Mrs Charles says it is thought to be a better (move) to have programmes made of the parliamentary proceedings and broadcast them the same evening on the state-owned radio. This has already been started.

But the opposition is adamant that live broadcast of political debates continues and has been talking in fighting terms.

During Thursday night's DLP public meeting almost all the speakers repeatedly urged Dominicans to "be prepared to make sacrifices."

Said opposition leader Douglas: "The rights we are fighting for are not rights for the opposition. These rights are the rights of all of us, and all of us must be expected to defend those rights."

The DLP has not stated clearly what form its protest will take, though party officials have on a number of occasions hinted at the possibility of mass demonstrations in the capital.

Prime Minister Charles is not perturbed: In a democratic society persons have the right to demonstrate, she told reporters.

"The only thing we have to do is to make sure the demonstrations are peaceful."

CSO: 3298/988

DOMINICA

CHARLES URGES CUSTOMS VIGILANCE OVER CARICOM TRADE

FL021952 Bridgetown CANA in English 1739 GMT 2 Sep 85

[Text] Roseau, 2 Sep--Dominica's Prime Minister, Eugenia Charles, today urged regional customs officers meeting here to be vigilant in order to thwart attempts to undermine the system of protection for Caribbean Community (Caricom) products.

Addressing the opening session of a week-long seminar for customs comptrollers from the seven-nation Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Miss Charles said the success of measures to safeguard regional products agreed on by Caricom heads of governments must depend on good faith and an unwavering determination to make them work.

We have to be forever vigilant over the tendencies of some of our manufacturers to undermine the system of protection for Caricom products by evading the value-added criteria, she said.

Goods manufactured in the community are traded on a duty free basis, but there have been persistent complaints of imports from outside the region being passed off as Caricom products to benefit from the trade provisions.

We are against this (evasion) and we are very strong in our determination to see that it does not happen here, Miss Charles said.

According to the prime minister, measures outlined in the Nassau Understanding, a pact aimed at settling the region's trade problems which came out of the heads of government summit in the Bahamas 2 years ago, had the support of her government.

Miss Charles had promised in her budget address last month that the full Nassau package would be in place here by 1 September, the revised deadline with which all member states were expected to comply.

Charles stressed, however, that protection for regional products as outlined in the Nassau package could not by itself reactivate intra-Caricom trade. There are other critical issues which need to be addressed, among them the structural deficiencies in the economies of some of the major trading partners in Caricom, and the absence of a reliable payments system for the region, she said.

You as senior customs officials must ensure that you have a clear understanding of the intent and purpose of the agreement and that we do not allow the concerns of individual interests to threaten the wider interests of national and regional development.

The seminar has brought together the OECS customs comptrollers to pinpoint a number of areas influencing development in customs administration but not controlled by these administrators.

It is also intended to allow an opportunity for discussions on matters of common interest. Among matters to be discussed are a draft customs act for Dominica which is likely to be adopted by the other OECS member states, proposals for new Caricom rules of origin governing trade in the community, and issues related to the development of a customs union in the OECS.

CSO: 3298/989

DOMINICA

ATTORNEY GENERAL CHARGES 'DIVISIVE' ACTION BY UNION

Roseau THE NEW CHRONICLE in English 23 Aug 85 p 3

[Text]

Attorney General Brian Alleyne has condemned the National Workers Union (NWU) statement on the Havana debt conference as an attempt to create conflict and confrontation between the government and the people of Dominica.

The statement issued on July 31 argued that Dominica is among the most impoverished of states with an economy that is a pure take off. The statement added that unpopular politics are imposed by the IMF and by other capitalist credit organisations on the region.

Mr. Alleyne told Parliamentarians last week that the NWU have "consistently shown themselves to be the worst example of backward employment practices in this country of Dominica in the last number of years."

He referred to the statement which spoke about the "political and

military presence of the USA in the region and the increases in military aid to countries run by grant who enjoy Washington's favour.

Mr. Alleyne replied that perhaps NWU would prefer Dominica to enjoy Havana's favour adding, "Grenada was an example of the enjoyment of Havana and Moscow's favour: no economic assistance, no economic development and in the end a blood bath."

Mr. Alleyne concluded that the motive of the press release was to create a situation of confrontation between the authorities and the people. It was left up to the people to decide whether they want to be led into that kind of situation without any justification.

"Because," he said, "there is nothing that this government has done or will do in the future that will justify that kind of confrontation."

CSO: 3298/1042

DOMINICA

DETAILS ON 1985-86 BUDGET, MINISTRY ALLOCATIONS

Roseau THE NEW CHRONICLE in English 16 Aug 85 p 7

[Text]

Shifting the taxation emphasis from direct to indirect taxes, Prime Minister Charles has budgeted a deficit of \$3,400,000 for the 1985-86 financial year.

Total spending, recurrent and capital, was put at \$169,400.00. This included what Miss Charles described in her speech on Monday as below the line cost of debt repayments and provision for increased wages and salaries in the public sector.

She estimated recurrent revenue would yield \$81,500,000, grants and loans for financing the capital budget, \$49,000.00 and \$26,100,000 respectively.

To meet the gap of \$12,800,000 Miss Charles put together a revenue package designed, as she put it, "to give relief where it is most needed and to soften the impact of the tax changes by spreading them over a wider target group." (See Centre Pages).

Those measures, she said, are expected to generate additional revenue estimated at a net \$9,400,000.

The result was the government would have to borrow \$3,400,000 to meet the public sector requirement.

Miss Charles noted that transportation and communication received the highest allocation, 37.2 per cent. Other percentages were agriculture 11.2 per cent, education 9.8 per cent, health 9.8 per cent, welfare 3.6 per cent, housing 4.2 per cent, security 4.9 per cent, general administration 14.9 per cent, and debt servicing 4.4 per cent.

Miss Charles said that the government had taken measures on the supply side to stimulate growth by providing for improvements in economic infrastructure, measures to increase production and productivity and to improve marketing and trade.

The taxation package is designed to

complement this development strategy by encouraging domestic savings and investment," she said.

But she was conscious of what she called "the proclivity to high consumption of imported goods." So steps had

been taken to control demand and reduce imports.

Without that, she said, the government's objective to stimulate growth in savings and investment would not be achieved.

Ministries can spend this

This is the allocation of the budget:

| | Recurrent | Capital | Total |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Agriculture | 4,896,720 | 13,055,710 | 17,952,430 |
| Education | 14,287,230 | 1,359,630 | 15,646,860 |
| Health | 12,400,170 | 3,370,180 | 15,770,350 |
| Welfare | 4,048,560 | 1,803,550 | 5,852,110 |
| Housing | 541,460 | 6,193,420 | 6,734,880 |
| Transport & Communication | 6,567,040 | 53,091,400 | 59,658,400 |
| Security | 7,681,790 | 120,000 | 7,801,790 |
| General Administration | 22,489,590 | 1,451,000 | 23,940,590 |
| Debt Servicing | 7,011,510 | - | 7,011,510 |
| | <hr/> 79,924,070 | <hr/> 80,444,890 | <hr/> 160,368,960 |

CSO: 3298/1042

DOMINICA

BRIEFS

CHARLES' TRIP--Roseau, 5 Sep--Dominica's Prime Minister Eugenia Charles leaves here at the end of the month for visits to Europe, the Far East, the United Nations and the Bahamas, the government announced today. A Foreign Affairs Ministry statement said that Charles will visit London and Brussels for talks aimed at reviewing the island's overseas representation. She will then move on to South Korea to attend a World Bank meeting and pay an official visit to Taiwan. She will later travel to New York to address the United Nations on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. Her final stop will be the Bahamas to attend the Commonwealth heads of government conference, before returning to Dominica in time for the visit of Queen Elizabeth of Britain on 25 October. She will be away for a month. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1846 GMT 5 Sep 85 FL]

CSO: 3298/989

ECUADOR

GUAYAQUIL, QUITO BANK ROBBERIES, AVC RESPONSIBILITY VIEWED

Guayaquil VISTAZO in Spanish 16 Aug 85 pp 79-80

[Text] The amount of money taken in robberies of banks and private companies on the Coast is 29 million sures so far this year. For Quito, the figure is 10 million. Based on these totals, some 6 million sures are taken a month in armed robberies, which clearly reveals the degree of organization achieved by criminals recently, despite the increased police effort to counter them. Do we need more police officers? Do they need more effective training in order to be able to discover who the members of these armed bands are more quickly and send them to prison to prevent them from acting again?

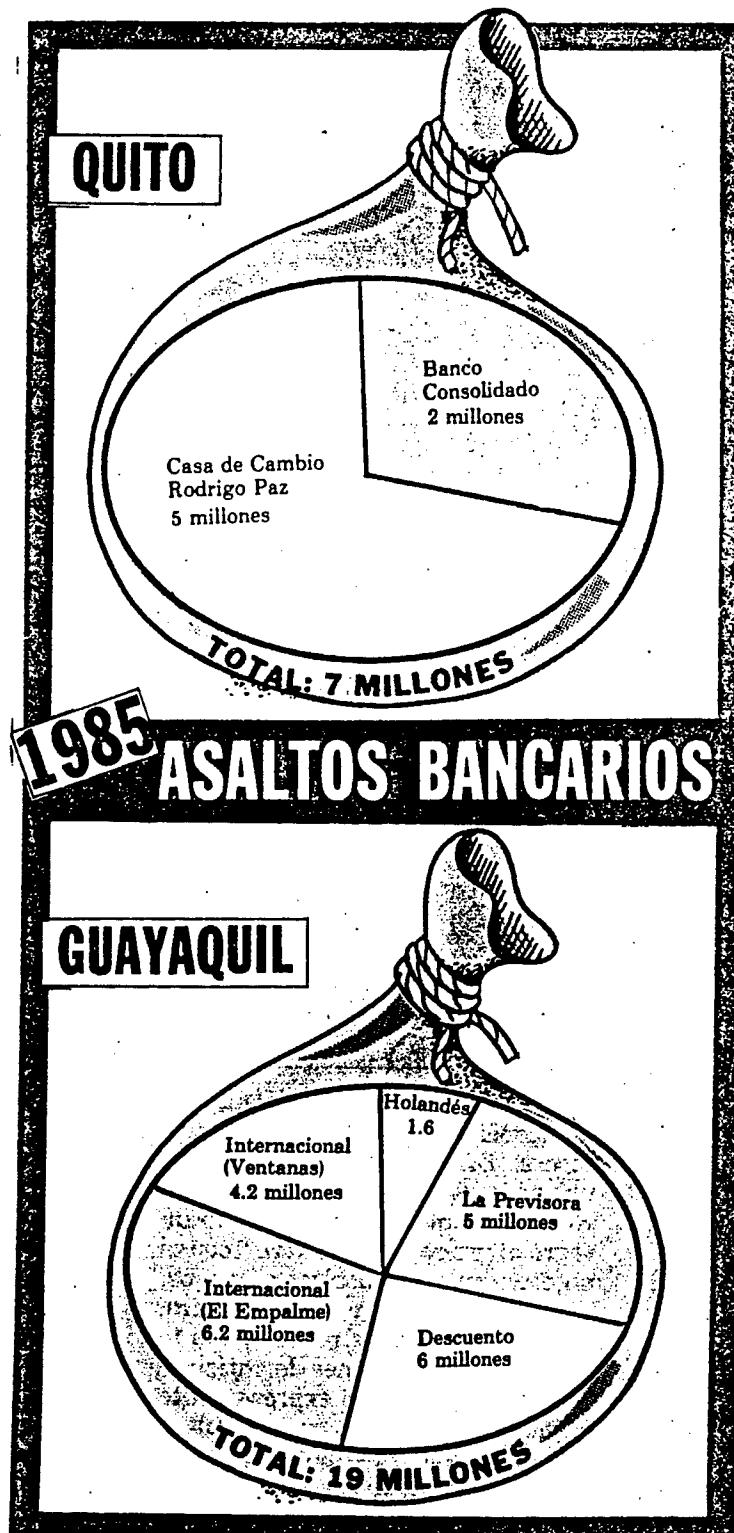
Organized Crime

Guayaquil is one of the cities most affected by organized crime. Four bank robberies have occurred in 7 months: Descuento, La Previsora, Holandes Unido and Continental. On 2 January, a gang of thieves who had previously studied the route taken by the Banco de Descuento armored truck in picking up deposits from various businesses intercepted the truck on Ismael Perez Pazmino and Ballen and made off with 6 million sures. As is always the case, not only money is lost, but also the lives of persons with families. Security guard Cesar Sanchez Echeverria was shot three times in the confrontation with the thugs, whose leader, Jorge Lima Trujillo, alias "Polito," also tragically died. The latter was highly experienced in this kind of crime, having previously held up the Banco de Fomento in Daule. Williams Avila Salvatierra was wounded and taken prisoner and told police that the gang was made up of other individuals who fled with the money. They are still at large.

Alfaro

On 1 April, five men armed with machine guns held up Branch No 3 of the Banco Holandes Unido and made off with 1.6 million sures, along with other items of value taken from customers in the bank at the time. The leader of the group was swarthy in complexion, tall, approximately 30 years of age and elegantly dressed. The Guayas Criminal Investigation Department, SICG, is certain that he is the dangerous thief Seymour Marshall Tobar, alias "Memo," known to be an assailant, rapist and car stealer who is now the object of an intense search. According to statements by police investigator Lt Xavier Rosales, the terrorist group "Alfaro Vive" is the author of many robberies in the country, in the company of hardened criminals such as Memo. They plan the robberies with some

Bank Robberies, 1985



intelligence, have money to spend and powerful weapons, and these individuals, who no longer have anything to lose, act resolutely because they know that the jobs practically never fail and that they will consequently receive sums of money they have perhaps never before seen in their underworld.

These observations are bolstered by the arrest of Pedro Paloma Suasti, one of those involved in Branch Office No 7 of the Banco La Previsora. Paloma Suasti stated that he had met Colombian Rodolfo Gomez several months previously, a member of the Alfaro Vive group, for the purpose of planning robberies of banks, business concerns and exchange banks. Such attacks were planned at least a month ahead of time in an expressly rented residence. All their movements would be carefully studied and reviewed with the aid of a blackboard. Each person knew his job. Rodolfo Gomez and Cesar Moran went in first and surprised the bank guard. Then Sergio Ramirez and Pedro Palma would enter. As the employees entered, they would be intimidated with the weapons, their mouths covered with adhesive tape and made to lie face down on the floor so that they would recognize no one later. It was not difficult to steal 5 million sures, all things considered.

There can be no doubt that such attacks are carried out by persons who "know what they are doing," individuals perfectly trained, "professional" criminals. In Guayaquil, the most remote bank branches have been robbed, branches that presented little danger because the police make rounds only infrequently. When the SICG officers were on their trail, they decided to rob banks in other cities on the coast, such as the Banco Internacional de Ventanas, where they got 4.6 million sures, and the branch of that same institution in El Empalme, where they got 6.2 million.

It is always a group that pulls off the robbery and that goes from one city to another. In Quito, they held up the Casa de Cambios Paz, which lost 4 million sures. Six men with the same traits as usual were involved: They carried machine guns, used stolen cars to get away, two had a Colombian accent, and so on.

Protection

Given these facts, we believe that the police should seriously train manpower to put an end to organized crime in Ecuador. Of all the bank robberies in Guayaquil, only one hideout has been found, that of one of the men who held up the Banco La Previsora. The others are yet to be discovered, which indicates that the police must be given all the necessary aid to do their work properly. Otherwise, major robberies will continue, one after the other, and never end, as has been the case with the wave of kidnappings and rapes.

11,464
CSO: 3348/928

GUATEMALA

MLN'S ARAGON QUINONEZ ON PARTY'S NEW IMAGE

Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE (Sunday supplement) in Spanish 18 Aug 85 pp 6-7

[Interview with Hector Aragon Quinonez, the general director of the National Liberation Movement (MLN), by Danilo de Leon at his home; date not specified]

[Text] He is the general director of the National Liberation Movement and alternate president of the National Constitutional Assembly. He is perhaps one of our most combative politicians, and his rhetoric is at times described as violent by rivals who are often the targets of his harsh criticism. He is a dynamic man both physically and mentally. And he has generally been where the action is as a student, physician and now a full-time politician. He admits that "there is no way to change someone who was born an outspoken loudmouth." He is, of course, talking about himself. "I call a spade a spade and never regret it."

Dr Hector Aragon Quinonez was surprised that we asked to interview him, because other people, for example, Mario Sandoval Alarcon and Jaime Caceres Knox, must be in the forefront now." In any event, he reaffirmed that he would not let up in his bid for his party's presidential nomination in 1990, asserting that it would come in first or second in the elections on 3 November.

He disclosed that he did not accept the MLN vice presidential nomination this time because "I already ran for that office when they cheated us and Peralta Azurdia." He claims that the MLN of a few years ago, when it was described as hard-line rightist, is just a memory. His party has undergone a change. New blood has been brought in; it understands problems better and has a heightened social awareness.

He received us at his home in Zone 14 but did not offer us coffee, because "time is short now that we are involved in the trials and tribulations of registering candidates for

deputy and the other elected offices in the country." By the time he realized it, he had been speaking with us for more than an hour.

[Question] With the elections less than 3 months away, how do you view the political panorama?

[Answer] We're in the home stretch, after the uncertainties of the previous frauds and with the deadline past for the cumbersome registration of candidates that all of the political parties have had to put up with. History is being written once again. To judge by my experience, only four of the eight candidates have a chance to become president of the republic: Mario Sandoval Alarcon, Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, Jorge Carpio and Jorge Serrano Elias. The others will have the honor of seeing their pictures on the ballots.

So then, the panorama is clear. We can only hope that the people in power today do not interfere, so that the civilian candidate who wins the election can bring the country the tranquility that our people need.

[Question] What are you referring to when you say that the people in power shouldn't interfere? Are there signs of this?

[Answer] The dark clouds on the horizon worry us. I cannot fail to point out Foreign Minister Andrade Diaz-Duran's involvement in politics. I remember that a few months ago Cerezo Arevalo said publicly that Andrade Diaz-Duran had asked him to consider the possibility of joining the UCN. Then, we have seen how the Revolutionary Party (PR) has enjoyed sinecures. You can see the signs now that investigations are being conducted into that party's supposed convention, which some political groups say never took place. There could be some surprises if it were proven that the PR does not have that legal mandate.

There is, of course, no evidence that there is a government candidate. If the MLN had such evidence, it would have already made it public. But doubts are mounting with each passing day. Don't forget that several parties have mentioned the foreign minister as the man pulling the strings. We know that he worked with other governments. He even refused to take part in a dialogue at Teleprensa so that he wouldn't have to discuss these matters.

[Question] What do you think of the presidential candidates?

[Answer] Sandoval Alarcon is a strongman who has serious problems because of a poor voice. I want to make the point, though, that Guatemala does not need to be governed by a singer. Therefore, the MLN's top man has the best qualifications to be president of the republic. He will simply not allow himself to be manipulated and has the country's most combative party behind him. Moreover, don't forget that there is a new, modern, up-to-date National Liberation Party now, one that is far removed from the rigid party of 1954. True, the change has caused some problems, even inside the party itself, because some people were still living in the past.

[Question] So it's true that the MLN has had a face-lift?

[Answer] It has nothing to do with a face-lift. It's a much deeper, more serious matter. We went to a clinic, as a party, and got a transfusion of new blood from young people who were perhaps not yet born in 1954. Part of the change has to do with the acceptance of the vice presidential nomination by Jaime Caceres Knox. From now on the MLN can not be placed on the hard-line Right.

Getting back to the candidates, though, Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo has a good chance. I think, however, that the DC [Christian Democracy] is not the party the country needs right now. Remember that that party's internationalization has not been a good thing throughout Latin America.

Then we have Jorge Carpio, a self-made businessman and journalist. I understand that he got his college degree through work experience after 1970. This is a feather in his cap but a liability in politics. The publicity sent him skyrocketing, but he can't show where his funds are from. Some people say that they're from the government, and others feel that they're from overseas. And then his party has nothing again. Now it has people from the MLN, the PID [Democratic Institutional Party], the PR and of all political stripes. There were repercussions in the Constitutional Assembly when several issues were discussed. Some UCN deputies voted with the DC and others with the MLN. This shows that as a political ideology the Center does not exist and that what happened to the Center in Spain is going to happen to this group. It ran once and was finished.

This has just been confirmed with the breakup of the triple alliance. Jorge Carpio was left by himself, and he's falling as fast as he rose. I feel that the only thing he will accomplish with Ramiro de Leon as his running mate is to burn out his political career.

Finally there is Jorge Serrano, whom the other candidates have not yet confronted politically. He was one of Rios Montt's favorites and is now trying to portray himself as Mr Clean when we all know that that government was ousted for corruption, for wanting to enthrone itself in power and also for getting a religious sect involved in government. Serrano Elias has some rough months in store for him.

[Question] And what about the other candidates?

[Answer] They're the ones who are going to liven the competition up. They have confused sports with politics and are going by the Olympic motto that the important thing is to participate. Some are just trying to keep their parties alive by getting the magic four percent of the vote. I would rather not discuss any of them because it's not worth the time.

[Question] The Right failed to unite, didn't it? What happened? Does it want to lose the elections?

[Answer] The Right is going to unite around the MLN because it represents the true feelings of the people who believe in full freedom, though it's true that a few scattered groups are going to win some votes. Now then, if we're talking about the CAN and the MEC, who are not with us, I can only state that

their leaders lacked political ethics. They lost sight of things and left. The conscientious Right will stand behind the MLN now that we have new people and understand perfectly the magnitude of the social problems in the country. I feel that the most important thing is to get enough votes to come in first or second. I think that the MLN will be in the second round of balloting against the Guatemalan Christian Democrats.

[Question] What groups will back the MLN in the runoff ballot?

[Answer] I don't think that this country can be governed by a single political group. Leaders from several parties have to come together to form a sound government, even to prevent possible coups d'etat. We are already holding talks with the right-wing groups that are going to back us, but I'm not going to disclose their names. You yourself obviously know who they are.

The runoff ballot is something new in our country, and I don't know whether those of us in the Constitutional Assembly did the right thing by establishing it. In any case, the second round of balloting that we had before left a very bitter taste in the mouths of presidential candidates. I repeat that the new MLN, a more dynamic, more civilized, more up-to-date, more intelligent and younger right-wing party, is the answer for the country.

[Question] If as you say the Right comes to power, how will it behave towards the various opposing ideologies in the country?

[Answer] Ever since Socrates and Plato dialogue has offered the best chances of success, although the ultimate decision is up to the president and vice president. We would dialogue with all political sectors, and even though the guerrillas were already given the opportunity with the political amnesty and even though we realize that all they're after is power, I still think that it would be worthwhile to take them into account, just to show that the government wants to resolve social problems.

[Question] What is your opinion of the economic measures that the government has taken?

[Answer] I don't agree with them. What is more, though, Gen Mejia Victores himself told me once that it is hard for a de facto government to find good advisers. I believe him. For example, no one wants to be finance minister for just a few months. The only person who does is the current minister. You can see the mistakes in the way the Bank of Guatemala is being run and in the Economy Ministry. They are a clear-cut example of what the experts call improvisation. If you don't believe me, ask the eight million Guatemalans who are paying the price of ineptitude the same question. And things are going to get even worse if taxes are boosted further.

[Question] The atmosphere has been tense in recent days, especially in politics...

[Answer] You're right. People are afraid of common violence, the economic crisis, political violence, everything. There is even talk of a possible coup d'etat. I have the same fears. Not because this might happen but because a

development like this would scuttle the return to constitutional government. And it wouldn't solve anything. The best thing would be for all of us to show our goodwill about holding the elections and to demonstrate to the world our devotion to democracy.

I am also worried that the violence will edge the government towards martial law. Although this would be bad, it wouldn't be the end of the world. I recall that elections were held during Arana's administration under martial law. In any event, I don't approve of it.

[Question] What do you think about Guatemala remaining neutral in the Central American conflict?

[Answer] The government makes policy, and the foreign minister receives orders. If I am not mistaken, the constitution says that the chief of state is in charge of foreign policy.

As far as I'm concerned, the Contadora group is just a decoy; it gives the Left in Central America some breathing room to obtain supplies. I don't think that at this point we can talk with the Nicaraguan Government, simply because it has the largest army in the region and, moreover, has taken an ideological stand alongside the Soviet Union. There is no longer the slightest doubt. As a physician and a surgeon I can tell you that if a cancer is not cut out, it tends to spread. In my mind, Nicaragua poses a danger to the region, and there can be no compromise with the enemy.

You would have to ask Gen Mejia Victores about Guatemala's neutrality in the matter. It seems to me that the government is following the instructions of the Contadora group but is also using neutrality to improve its image overseas.

[Question] What can tell us about the most recent violence?

[Answer] I think that the government must find a way to halt the violence, which is threatening to cause the sort of chaos that would prevent the elections from being held.

We politicians talk time and again about how we can help stop the violence in the country. I think that we must all do more in this regard.

[Question] What groups might be interested in preventing the elections from being held?

[Answer] It is no longer a secret that there are problem rifts in the army and that there are also political groups that sense they are going to lose and could be interested in not seeing the move towards democracy completed. The guerrillas would also be interested in halting it. Remember that it's an ill wind...That's why it's hard to point to a specific group. But they exist.

[Question] Let's talk about you. You've been a bit subdued lately, compared to your usual dynamic self. What's wrong?

[Answer] Nothing. As a college student and as a physician with political ambitions I received several offers that might give many people a real charge. The first serious offer came from the Christian Democrats. The party's organizational director some years ago, Enrique Guillen, offered me the vice presidential spot on the ticket with Gen Rios Montt. The PR also spoke to me about running for vice president. But I preferred to be with my friends, with my companions, with the people I had grown up with, and I went with the MLN, which offered me the deputy's seat in San Marcos.

I think that I made the right choice and I am happy to belong to the MLN. And I cannot fail to mention that what I know about being a politician I owe to my mentor, Mario Sandoval Alarcon.

It's not that I'm not my usual dynamic self right now. It's just that Sandoval Alarcon and Caceres Knox are the ones who ought to be in the forefront. There is jealousy in every party. In my case, I told the MLN's top man that I already won the 1978 election and that he should look for another vice presidential candidate, some new blood to give life to the party. This was how Jaime Caceres Knox was picked. And I'm happy about it.

I've said it before. I will seek the MLN's presidential nomination for the 1990 election. Everyone in the party knows that whether we win or lose on 3 November, I will devote my efforts to winning the presidential nomination for the subsequent term. If I have not retired or been retired from politics, of course. I am now the general director of the party and I'm doing the job with the total dedication that I'm known for. I know perfectly well when a person should be in the forefront.

[Question] How many deputies will the MLN have in the next Congress?

[Answer] About 25, if we do poorly. But with our current strength and with gains in the offing, we could easily win 35 or 40. Let's wait until November the 3rd.

[Question] Where did you get the nickname "Chichita Aragon" from?

[Answer] I was a very active in sports during my years in secondary school. The nickname is from back then. I never found out exactly which of my friends gave it to me. Before I realized it, I was answering to "Chichita the pretty boy." I like it when my friends say to me: "If we had men with the guts of a 'Chichita Aragon' in government, things would be a lot different."

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GUATEMALA

BRIEFS

EXXON SIGNS CONTRACT--The world's largest oil company, Exxon, signed a contract the day before yesterday with the Guatemalan Government to explore some 300,000 hectares in the department of Peten, where it will spend a total of \$30 million, the Energy and Mines Ministry has reported. Attending the signing ceremony were the president of Exxon Exploration, Mr Emett Humble; Alexander Brown, the exploration manager for Latin America; Guillermo de la Guardia, the manager for Guatemala; as well as Energy Minister Col Alejandro Sigfrido Contreras, an engineer by profession, and Vice Minister Manuel Maza Castellanos. The ministry indicated that for some time there had been talk that Exxon might come to Guatemala after familiarizing itself with the laws governing oil exploration here. It was not until 3 days ago, however, that it signed a contract for operations in the northern department of Peten, the municipalities of La Libertad and Sayaxche in particular. The exploration is limited to 300,000 hectares. Seismic recordings will be taken over no less than 500 kilometers. At least two 4,000-meter wells will be drilled during the first 3 years, with an optional two wells a year during the 4th, 5th and 6th years of exploration. According to Minister Contreras, Exxon is confident about the geological value of the area. The company is the largest in the world and is financially and technologically strong. He added that the contract could extend for 25 years. He went on to say that Exxon's move into Guatemala underscores that the country's oil legislation is acceptable to the firms that are interested in exploring for fossil fuels here; in other words, the legislation is not unfavorable, "as some media circles said when it took effect." Texaco Exploration, Texaco Canada, Hispanoil and BrasPetro are already doing oil exploration work in Peten. There is a good chance of finding a large stratum of oil in the department, it was mentioned. [Text] [Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 17 Aug 85 p 6] 8743

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MEXICO

MURDER OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICIAL, OTHERS LINKED TO DRUGS

Called Vengeance Killings

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 30 Jul 85 STATES section pp 1, 4

[Article by Salvador Nava]

[Text] Durango, Dgo., 29 July--Fidel Arteaga Valdes, state coordinator for public safety was shot to death, together with one of his sons and two other people, when he arrived at his home in the Los Remedios development (442 Camino del Amanecer) 29 July. Rafael Hernandez Piedra, president of the state Superior Court, and Mireya Castaneda, wife of the police chief, were wounded.

The event occurred at 4:45, when several individuals with a caliber R-15 submachine gun fired from a moving automobile at the police official and those accompanying him in a car with Durango state license plates FXB-014.

Besides Arteaga Valdes, those who died at the scene of the shooting were: Sergio Arteaga Castaneda, 15, a son of his; Magdalena Moreno de Hernandez Piedra, wife of the president of the state Superior Court; and Miguel Pizarro, the chief victim's personal bodyguard.

According to the preliminary investigations carried out by agents of the state Judicial Police and of the federal Judicial Police, who, at the request of Governor Armando del Castillo Franco, arrived in this city yesterday, it has been established that the multiple murders were an act of vengeance by drug traffickers.

Minutes before the attack, Arteaga and those with him had left a bash organized to commemorate the 422nd anniversary of the founding of this city. According to the investigations, a van driven by Miguel Pizarro, the bodyguard, was following the car driven by Arteaga.

When they arrived at the private residence of the police chief, which is located in the Los Remedios development, a 1980 white Chevrolet van with Zacatecas state license plates ZD-4323 pulled alongside Arteaga Valdes' car and from inside a burst was fired from the above-mentioned submachining gun.

Car Is Found

Later, the assassins' car was found by the police in front of number 414 in the Colonia Cienaga. According to the findings of the federal Judicial Police, the van had been stolen several days before from Isidro Corrales near the village of Calera.

Rafael Hernandez Piedra, president of the state Superior Court, and Mireya Castaneda, Arteaga Valdes' wife, were taken in Red Cross ambulances to a private hospital, where they are being treated.

So far, the police have few clues to explain the attack; however, the deed has been attributed to the organization of drug traffickers that operates in this state.

In view of these circumstances, Governor Armando del Castillo Franco has asked the Office of the attorney general to place the federal police in charge of the investigation.

Del Castillo Franco condemned the multiple killings and gave assurances that the investigations would be pursued "wherever they may lead" in order to punish the murderers.

Drug Trade Ties Denied

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 3 Aug 85 STATES supplement p 6

[Article by Salvador Nava]

[Text] Camerino Castro Gonzalez, prosecuting attorney for the Justice Department, has declared that the assassination of public safety chief Fidel Arteaga Valdes is in no way related to drug trafficking.

He denied the report of a foreign news agency that made it appear so by declaring that Arteaga's death had been ordered from Mexico City's Northern Penitentiary by Jaime Herrera, who has been accused of leading a gang of drug traffickers and, together with 22 other people, is being held on a variety of charges.

He stated that investigation of the murders is proceeding on the basis of concrete facts and not suppositions, as various communications media have suggested in relation to this case.

For his part, Jose Duran Valenzuela, chief of the state Judicial Police, has stated that Governor Armando del Castillo Franco has given orders to pursue the investigation to conclusion. He noted that so far there are no concrete leads that would lead to the capture of those involved.

He also denied that Arteaga Valdes' murder involves people such as Gregorio Fuentes and stressed: "The investigation is not aimed at any particular group but is focused on real situations that might provide concrete leads to the capture of the killers."

He declared that the state is completely quiet.

Investigations in Zacatecas

Meanwhile, a group of police agents from Durango arrived in Zacatecas with the mission of carrying out, jointly with Zacatecas' Judicial Police, investigations into the above-mentioned multiple killings.

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MEXICO

FORMER CNPP LEADER CHARGED WITH FRAUD, TAKEN INTO CUSTODY

Overdrafts Against Banamex Charged

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 25 Jul 85 pp 4-A, 35-A

[Article by Rafael Medina Cruz]

[Text] Salomon Faz Sanchez, a former leader of the CNPP [National Confederation of Small Landowners] and federal deputy during the 51st legislative session, was arrested last night by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic (PGR) and arraigned before the seventh district criminal court judge on charges of defrauding BANAMEX [National Bank of Mexico] of a million pesos, the General Directorate of Preliminary Investigations has confirmed.

The candidate for governor of Sonora during the Lopez-Portillo administration was accused of defrauding BANAMEX by the bank's attorney, Gabriel Zamudio.

Just a few hours after his arrest on the morning of the day before yesterday, Salomon Faz Sanchez's attorneys filed a petition for amparo [a writ, possessing elements similar to an injunction as well as habeas corpus] with seventh district criminal court judge Jose Chavez Zavala against his being held incommunicado in a PGR cell. The judge ordered him to be arraigned or released within 24 hours.

The Preliminary Investigations Directorate of the PGR indicated that "as of the moment" it has been able to prove only that the former CNPP leader had defrauded BANAMEX of a million pesos.

The directorate, where the defendant was interrogated, added, however, that it is also investigating his alleged involvement in two other cases of fraud against BANPAIS and the National Rural Credit Bank.

"If the charge against him is borne out," an authorized PGR spokesman clarified, "the amount of the fraud could rise."

The former federal deputy was arrested in the Federal District shortly after he left his home in San Angel.

The CNPP leader denied having committed fraud, even though he was shown a 1 million peso check of his that had bounced.

While Sanchez was being questioned at the Federal Public Ministry, the plenary session of the Independent Peasants Central Organization (CCI) resolved to call on the nation's attorney general, the federal comptroller and the governor of Sonora to imprison and try the former president of the CNPP on charges of defrauding the CCI of more than 500 million pesos.

According to the CCI, during the previous 6-year term Salomon Faz Sanchez received 800 million pesos to set up collective rural associations.

The CCI claimed, however, that Faz Sanchez spent only 300 million pesos in forming 32 rural associations, many of which are nonexistent, it added.

The attorney general's office declined to comment on this, merely indicating that "we booked him only on the charges filed by the BANAMEX attorney."

Personnel from the seventh district criminal court said that the former CNPP leader is not entitled to release on bail inasmuch as the amount of the fraud is more than 500 times the minimum wage in the Federal District.

In any case, it will be Judge Jose Chavez Zavala who will decide whether Salomon Faz is taken into formal custody or released for lack of evidence.

Had Sought U.S. Visa

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 25 Jul 85 pp 4-A, 27-A

[From "Political Fronts" Column, by Humberto Aranda]

[Text] Salomon Faz Had Attempted to Flee

Salomon Faz Sanchez, the former leader of the CNPP who has been charged with fraud, stood on line last Friday between 8 and 10 am outside the U.S. Embassy to apply for a visa to enter the United States.

He was accompanied by his wife and two sons and was dressed in his customary attire: an elegant gray hat, honey-colored sheepskin jacket and boots, stylish brown pants and a silk shirt. His wife was dressed in black, and one of his sons, sporting a beard, wore a tennis outfit.

He spotted a friend of his on the embassy's security staff, a fellow nicknamed "El Rayo," and remarked to him: "You're putting on weight." El Rayo helped him apply for the visa.

Somewhat later, around noon, the former Sonora deputy was seen leaving a currency exchange office on Campos Eliseos where he had bought dollars.

Suspect Ordered Held

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 28 Jul 85 pp 4-A, 30-A

[Article by Rafael Medina Cruz]

[Excerpt] Salomon Faz Sanchez, the former leader of the CNPP and federal deputy in the 51st legislative session, was ordered formally held yesterday by the seventh district criminal court judge on charges of defrauding BANAMEX. He is not entitled to release on bail.

Federal Judge Fernando Hernandez Reyes stated in his decision that there was sufficient evidence to implicate the former Sonora gubernatorial candidate in the more than 1.4 million peso fraud against BANAMEX.

The formal arrest order stated that the evidence furnished by the attorney general's office was sufficient to rule against Salomon Faz Sanchez, who if convicted could face a 3- to 12-year jail sentence.

The preliminary investigation assigned to the seventh district court was left open, and the attorney general's office could file additional charges against the former CNPP leader.

Faz Sanchez was notified of the formal arrest order shortly after noon yesterday while in a court holding cell. He is now subject to prosecution.

In its report to the attorney general's office BANAMEX charged that Faz Sanchez had written rubber checks to pay off debts of more than 1.4 million pesos.

The federal judge clarified that "as of now" no other charges have been filed against the former CNPP leader and that he has been taken into formal custody only on charges of defrauding BANAMEX. "There are no other charges by any other bank," he noted.

Through his attorneys Salomon Faz Sanchez will contest the judge's ruling.

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MEXICO

EARTHQUAKE CAUSES EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO TELEPHONE SYSTEM

PA200207 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 0040 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] The director general of the Mexican Telephone Company, Emilio Carrillo Gamboa, is on the telephone line now and he will give us a report on the telephone services.

[Announcer] We are on the air, go ahead.

[Carrillo Gamboa] ...and the Victoria Central, both situated on the first section of the city. In addition to killing three workers, the tremor damaged the equipment of the international long distance central, the national long distance central, and the special services with prefixes 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, and 09 are practically destroyed. Therefore, we have begun removing the debris over the equipment, have made an inventory of the damage done, and then we will make a study of the damage done to the buildings. We will then proceed to recover the equipment which is still usable, and obtain in either Mexico or abroad the equipment required to replace the damaged equipment. All of this entails a vast amount of work never seen before in Mexico. Undoubtedly, this is the greatest damage ever done to our telephone installations.

Therefore, we wish to notify the people that Mexico City right now has no international or national long distance services, and that the towns in Hidalgo, Tlaxcala, Puebla, Guerrero, Morelos, Veracruz, Tabasco, Campeche, Chiapas, Yucatan, Quintana Roo, Oaxaca, and Mexico states cannot receive or make any international calls. Although all efforts will be made to solve this huge damage, the duration of the damage will be extended. Until we have a more complete evaluation, we will not be able to give you an estimate of the time.

The damage to the equipment is also affecting communications between northern and southern parts of the republic. In other words, all the centrals south of Mexico City cannot communicate with the northern part and vice versa. This will also be solved as soon as possible.

We wish to ratify to our customers that we will spare no human, technical, or economic efforts for solving this serious problem, but we urge you to please bear with us during the time our services will be suspended. We also urge our customers in the interior of the republic not to try to make long distance telephone calls into the metropolitan area as this causes more problems. We wish to tell our customers that we have explained the seriousness of the damage and we trust we will solve it as soon as possible. Please bear with us.

[Announcer] You were very clear and sincere. What else can we do?

[Carrillo Gamboa] You will have to get used to it, and we are doing everything, evaluating the damage and trying to obtain equipment from other parts of the republic in order to replace equipment. We are contacting our suppliers in Mexico and abroad so we will obtain, as soon as possible, replacement equipment.

[Announcer] Here, in Imevision, for the last 11 and 1/2 hours we have been receiving messages from persons who want to notify their relatives throughout the country that they are all right. I have instructions from Imevision to continue with these calls. So far, we have carried over 7,600 messages.

[Carrillo Gamboa] Yes, Don Joaquin. As director of the telephone company, I appreciate your efforts. All of our human and technical efforts will try to solve this problem as soon as possible.

[Announcer] Mr Carrillo Gamboa, thank you for your sincerity, although the truth hurts.

[Carrillo Gamboa] We are here to serve you. Thank you.

CSO: 3248/521

NICARAGUA

ASSEMBLY'S CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION REPORTS ON PROGRESS

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 22 Aug 85 p 4

[Text] Pursuant to the provisions of Title V, Chapter I of the General Statutes of the National Assembly, the Special Constitutional Committee was formed on 21 May of this year for the purpose of drafting the proposed Political Constitution. Three months after the formation of the Special Constitutional Committee, we are submitting to the Plenum of the National Assembly the First Report on the work done to date.

As we stated when the committee was formed, "all political parties represented on this committee should work to ensure that the Constitution reflects in its fundamental aspects the sovereign rights of the people, from which the Sandinist Popular Revolution derives its power."

The committee comprises the following members: Clemente Guido, Mauricio Diaz, Rafael Solis, Domingo Sanchez, Juan Tijerino and the undersigned, who are all also members of the Board of Directors of the National Assembly; and Eduardo Coronado, Rafael Cordova Rivas, Flor de Maria Monterrey, Humberto Solis, Reynaldo A. Tefel, Danilo Aguirre, Luis H. Guzman, Nathan Sevilla, Sixto Ulloa, Juan Manuel Gutierrez, Isidro Tellez, Serafin Garcia, Benigna Mendiola, Eduardo Molina, Allan Zambrana and Rafael Mairena.

I. Subcommittees

In accordance with the plan that was presented and approved unanimously, the Special Constitutional Committee's Internal Regulations, its Plan and Procedures, and those of each of the subcommittees, were drawn up and approved. The following subcommittees were formed for the purpose of dividing up the work:

-- Constitutional Affairs Subcommittee
-- National Consultation Subcommittee
-- Foreign Travel Subcommittee

1) Constitutional Affairs Subcommittee

Cmdr Carlos Nunez Tellez - Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN),
Coordinator

Mauricio Diaz - Popular Social Christian Party (PPSC) - Vice-coordinator
Dr Eduardo Coronado - Independent Liberal Party (PLI) - Secretary

Members:

Dr Rafael Cordova Rivas - Democratic Conservative Party (PCD)
Flor de Maria Monterrey - FSLN
Dr Humberto Solis Barker - FSLN
Reynaldo A. Tefel - FSLN
Dr Danilo Aguirre Solis - FSLN
Dr Luis Humberto Guzman - PPSC

During the initial stage, this subcommittee would lay down the general guidelines for the content of the Constitution, so that in a subsequent phase the central ideas regarding the nature and basic features of the document could be presented in an orderly fashion. Assisted by the group of advisers from the National Assembly, the subcommittee would then proceed to propose to the Special Constitutional Committee the draft Political Constitution of the Republic.

2) National Consultation Subcommittee

Juan Tijerino - FSLN - Coordinator
Nathan Sevilla - FSLN - Vice-coordinator
Sixto Ulloa - FSLN - Secretary

Members:

Dr Juan Manuel Gutierrez - PLI
Isidro Tellez - Marxist-Leninist Popular Movement (MAP-ML)
Deputy Cmdr Serafin Garcia - FSLN
Benigna Mendiola - FSLN

This subcommittee is to organize the national consultation and publicize its activities, both nationally and abroad.

The consultation with the political-social sectors has two phases:

- a) Listening to the opinions of the political parties represented in the National Assembly about what the Constitution should consist of, and the opinions of the national leaders of labor, social and trade organizations, as well as the legally constituted political parties.
- b) Organizing Town Meetings for the fundamental purpose of coming into close contact with the people and directly obtaining their points of view on the society and state that are being built. By bringing the people and the legislature together, the former can strengthen their patriotic and revolutionary awareness and education, and the latter can learn from the feelings and thoughts of the masses, the only source of power in Nicaragua.

3) Foreign Travel Subcommittee

Dr Clemente Guido - PCD - Coordinator
Dr Rafael Solis - FSLN - Vice-coordinator
Domingo Sanchez - PSN - Secretary

Members:

Dr Eduardo Molina Palacios - PCD
Allan Zambrana - Communist Party of Nicaragua (PCdeN)
Rafael Mairena - FSLN

This subcommittee is to organize trips for the representatives in the National Assembly so that they can study the constitutional experiences of different political systems. It must ensure that the delegations are pluralistic and representative of the parties in the National Assembly.

The Special Constitutional Committee must at the end of this legislative session receive a report on the work carried out by the three subcommittees, and their final result: the draft Constitution.

The Special Constitutional Committee has been working in two kinds of meetings, plenary sessions and subcommittee meetings, for the purpose of formulating discussion guideline documents as responsibly as possible. These guidelines will enable the members to achieve the best possible consensus, reflecting a high degree of patriotism and maturity on the part of each of the parties represented.

We have made it clear that the agreements adopted by each subcommittee are proposals to be submitted to the Special Constitutional Committee, and that the subcommittees have been functioning as specialized bodies. The agreements are discussed and approved by the plenum of the Special Constitutional Committee and by each member.

II. Agreements of Special Constitutional Committee

1) National Consultation

Although the people delegated the task of drawing up the Political Constitution to the National Assembly, the latter wishes to carry out a wide-ranging national consultation with the leaders of the political parties, trade organizations, unions, social and religious groups, and the country's key sectors, in order to ensure that the Political Constitution reflects the broadest possible national consensus. For this purpose, the National Consultation Subcommittee submitted a proposal to carry out this consultation in two phases, as we indicated above.

Yesterday we began the first phase of the National Consultation in a hearing before part of the Special Constitutional Committee, attended by the Democratic Conservative Party and the Nicaraguan Socialist Party. Each party expressed its fundamental viewpoints regarding the content of the Constitution, in accordance with its particular political interests.

It is important to note the serious attitude, the investigative thoroughness and the political responsibility shown by the first two parties to attend the hearings of the Special Constitutional Committee. Both the Democratic Conservative Party and the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, aware that they were witnessing the beginning of a historic event, excelled in the consistency of their proposals and above all in their desire to contribute.

Throughout this month, all the political parties that are represented in the National Assembly will appear at hearings to make similar presentations. Their viewpoints will enrich the knowledge of the Special Constitutional Committee, the political parties of the National Assembly, their members, and

our people. It is the people who have entrusted this great mission to us, and we have an obligation to ensure that their interests are well represented.

The appearances are scheduled as follows:

21 August - PPSC
26 August - MAP-ML
28 August - PLI and PCdeN
29 August - FSLN

Later, the National Consultation Subcommittee will hear testimony from the leaders of the other legally constituted political parties and other social forces of the country. Thus, as we indicated, the constitution of our country will reflect a national consensus and will consecrate the transformations of our Revolution.

The Special Constitutional Committee agreed to consult the following sectors regarding the draft constitution: industrial and agricultural workers; large, small and medium agriculture, livestock and industrial producers; small, medium and large merchants; professionals and technicians; women; the religious sectors; the military; youths; and the ethnic groups. These town meetings will be held during the first months of next year and will be chaired by representatives of the people.

The only person who opposed the FSLN's proposal to the subcommittee that Open Town Meetings be held was Dr Rafael Cordova Rivas of the PCD. He stated that this format would detract from the sovereignty of the National Assembly. Dr Coronado of the PLI expressed reservations about the consultation with the social sectors, particularly with reference to the procedure to be used, because he feared that people could be swayed to express certain opinions. Finally, Allan Zambrana, speaking on behalf of the Communist Party of Nicaragua, proposed that the consultation be carried out among all political parties in the nation, without exception.

2) Trips Abroad to Study Constitutional Matters

For the purpose of learning the experiences that different political systems have had in drafting constitutions, the Foreign Travel Subcommittee proposed to the Special Constitutional Committee that different delegations of the National Assembly be formed to visit the following regions:

Latin American Countries
Western European Countries
Socialist Countries

The subcommittee also must ensure that each delegation represents the political pluralism of the National Assembly.

An initial delegation, headed by Dr Rafael Solis Cerda and made up of Domingo Sanchez, Allan Zambrana and Cesar Augusto Castillo, has already visited the socialist countries. It toured the parliaments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, and the German Democratic

Republic. The members obtained some valuable knowledge about political systems. The delegation found some extremely interesting features in the constitutions of the countries it visited, and saw a clear relationship between the socio-political development of these countries and their constitutions.

At the end of this month, another constitutional delegation will leave for Latin American countries for the same purpose. It will be headed by Dr Humberto Solis Barker, and its members will be Dr Eduardo Molina, Alfredo Rodriguez, Rogelio Ramirez, and Carlos Lucas. It will visit the parliaments of Argentina, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Panama, Costa Rica, Mexico and Cuba.

It should also be noted that in addition to the specific objectives set forth, these trips will provide an opportunity to strengthen the ties between our National Assembly and the parliaments visited. They will also help instruct others about our situation, with particular reference to the politico-juridical tasks that we are carrying out, specifically the drafting of our proposed Constitution.

At the end of October, the final delegation will leave for Western Europe. So far, we have received positive responses from Spain, the Federal Republic of Germany, England, France and Sweden. Dr Clemente Guido will be at the head of the delegation.

3) Discussion Guidelines

The Constitutional Affairs Subcommittee, in its capacity as a specialized body, submitted a schedule to the Special Constitutional Committee that entails primarily the drafting of a document on the general part of the Constitution, the formulation of the outline of the Constitution, then its development, and the submission of the proposed Constitution.

In accordance with the proposal, which was approved by the Special Constitutional Committee, an initial document was discussed. It states that "the Political Constitution must, among other objectives, reflect the national situation, that is, the political, economic and social changes that have taken place to date. It must be written on the basis of contributions from the parties that participated in the electoral process, after a wide-ranging popular consultation."

The following points were approved:

"1. Democracy: Understood as a combination of the concepts of liberty and equality, as expressed in Sandino's dream: 'Effective democracy and social justice.' In other words, the construction of a society with the real participation of the people, in which there is full recognition of the right to elect and be elected; the freedoms of expression, organization and assembly; the right to have decent shelter, education, health, and employment--in short, the right to lead a decent life.

In such a democracy, all political, economic and social sectors in the country would work toward specific objectives and goals; the economy would function to protect the country against malnutrition and war, to make it possible for the

people to be happy, to eradicate poverty, hunger, malnutrition, destruction and unemployment.

"2. Political Pluralism: The existence and participation of all political organizations without ideological restrictions, except for those that advocate returning to Somozaism or aim at restoring a similar political system.

"3. Mixed Economy: An economic model in which three kinds of ownership coexist: state, cooperative and private; and in which all three aim primarily to serve the people, without failing to provide reasonable profit margins.

"4. Non-Alignment: A principle that guarantees independence from the hegemonic centers of power; active, peaceful coexistence among all states; and moral solidarity with the struggle of peoples against imperialism, colonialism, apartheid and racism. We also express our opposition to the existence of military blocs and alliances, and the urgent need to restructure international relations on the basis of equity, establishing a new international economic order.

"5. Anti-Imperialism: Based on our struggle for independence and sovereignty; for this reason, we reaffirm our right to self-determination, and reject the unjust terms of trade that discriminate against developing countries. We also reject the view that Latin American countries are geopolitical reserves, and we repudiate military, political and economic intervention against the legitimate sovereign rights of nations.

"6. Latin Americanism: Taking up once again Bolivar's and Sandino's ideal of the unity of Latin American countries, for the purpose of strengthening and bolstering our peoples.

"7. Anti-Interventionism: Adhering to the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

"8. Defense of the Fatherland: Expressed in the participation by all of the people in the defense of the nation and the struggle to maintain peace, the indispensable foundation of the country's social and economic development."

We have progressed in the discussion of key political elements; only the Marxist-Leninist Popular Movement voted against this proposal, stating that the discussion of such principles was premature. Later, the Constitutional Affairs Subcommittee submitted a new proposal called the "Guidelines for the Organization of the State," which the political parties all agreed to leave as an internal document of the Special Constitutional Committee.

It is easy for the Plenum of the National Assembly to see that the work has been arduous and has demanded energy and dedication on the part of each of us. We are confident that we will continue to work with the same enthusiasm, maturity and responsibility that have characterized our efforts so far, aware of the historical importance of the task the people have assigned to the National Assembly. We are also certain that we will be able to submit a draft that is worthy of the people's bravery and heroism, a Constitution that will be a new weapon in the defense of our national sovereignty and dignity.

Managua, 20 August 1985

"For peace, everyone against aggression."

Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez
President of the National Assembly and the Special Constitutional Committee

8926

CSO: 3248/518

NICARAGUA

FSLN REORGANIZES COMMITTEES, NAMES MEMBERS

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 4 Aug 85 p 2

[Text] Communique

I. The National Board of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), having met in a special session with the Sandinist Assembly, has concluded that the historical circumstances--characterized by the urgent need to concentrate all the people's energies on the defense of the revolutionary government, which is besieged by imperialist aggression and is undergoing a serious economic crisis--demand that we advance in the politico-organizational refining of the FSLN, along the following lines:

1. Strengthen the FSLN's role as a vanguard and the leader of the entire society.
2. Strengthen the FSLN's political unity.
3. Overcome the divisiveness and feudalism, and ensure an integral political leadership of the great national effort to defend the revolutionary government.

II. The analyses that were carried out in various sessions have revealed that a number of organizational changes are necessary to achieve the following objectives:

- a) To strengthen the National Board, its overall leadership capacity and its executive effectiveness.
- b) To put the FSLN in a better position to coordinate the fundamental structures of the revolutionary government in a harmonious manner and to mobilize the people's efforts to defend the Revolution.
- c) To strengthen the FSLN's political unity and the coherence of its actions.
- d) To make the Auxiliary Departments instruments of effective support for the National Board's overall leadership efforts.
- e) To enhance the participation of the cadres in the formulation of guidelines and the evaluation and generalization of practical experience.

f) To strengthen the mechanisms for internal training that will ensure constant vigilance against the lifestyles and working habits that alienate us from the masses, and will guarantee our constant improvement as revolutionaries.

III. In furtherance of these objectives, the following politico-organizational resolutions have been ratified and adopted:

1. The National Board of the FSLN

The National Board is the highest leadership organization of the FSLN and the Revolution, and this role is to be maintained and enhanced.

The National Board has formed an Executive Committee, made up of its members, which is responsible for organizing the execution and supervision of decisions in all branches of revolutionary government. This Committee is to represent the National Board before the Agencies and the Membership of the FSLN; in the latter capacity, it is the conduit between the National Board and the organizations that support and carry out the dictates of the FSLN.

This Executive Committee has none of the attributes of the National Board; it is an organ for implementing the latter's decisions.

The National Board has dissolved the Political Committee, and the executive functions it formerly had are now to be carried out by the Executive Committee of the National Board.

The Executive Committee shall be led by a coordinator, who is answerable to the National Board for the work of the Executive Committee. The coordinator shall represent the Executive Committee before all other agencies of the FSLN.

The Executive Committee shall also have a vice-coordinator, to be appointed by the National Board from among its members, to ensure permanent ties between the Committee and the structures of the FSLN. The vice-coordinator shall oversee the daily work of the Executive Committee, and in that capacity shall direct the Central Agencies and Auxiliary Departments.

2. Sandinist Assembly

The Sandinist Assembly is a permanent consultative body which supports the National Board in the most important decision-making tasks of the Revolution. It is made up of a number of representative cadres, named by the National Board. Their combined membership shall not exceed 105 individuals.

The Sandinist Assembly shall have two categories of membership:

- a) Full membership
- b) Alternate membership

The Sandinist Assembly shall meet in one regular session each year to evaluate the accomplishments of the FSLN to date. It shall hold special sessions to handle specific problems.

For practical considerations or to provide political stimulus, the National Board may invite some outstanding cadres to the meetings of the Assembly if they can contribute to the discussion of certain problems.

The regular session of the Sandinist Assembly shall take place in the month of June each year, and at that time the annual report shall be presented. The Executive Committee, drawing on the coordinated action of each of the Auxiliary Departments, shall prepare for that session at least 1 month in advance.

The National Board shall organize ad hoc committees within the Sandinist Assembly for the purpose of dealing with special matters that are of constant concern. These committees may also enlist the aid of outstanding members who are specialists in the area in question.

The National Board shall periodically investigate the revolutionary quality of the members of the Sandinist Assembly.

3. Auxiliary Departments of the National Board

The Auxiliary Departments of the National Board comprise the following:

1. Secretariat of General Affairs
2. Department of Organization
3. Department of Agitation and Propaganda
4. Department of Political Education
5. Department of International Relations
6. Department of Finance
7. Institute of Sandinist Studies

In addition to the Auxiliary Departments, an Advisory Council may be appointed by the National Board, to be made up of outstanding members. Their function shall be to provide support for the heads of the Auxiliary Departments in the analysis and evaluation of programs and plans, the drafting of proposals, etc.

4. Regional Committees

To carry out the general tasks required by the regions, Regional Committees have been formed to serve as leadership and coordination entities of the FSLN and to represent the National Board. They shall be run by coordinators, who shall be in charge of political matters for the Regional Committees.

Each Regional Committee shall be made up of the coordinator and other outstanding cadres who are in the vanguard of the structures of revolutionary government and the top-priority tasks of each region, especially with regard to the defense of the Revolution.

In order to guarantee the effectiveness and efficiency of leadership, the membership of each Regional Committee shall be limited to 10 individuals.

5. Zone Committees

Subordinate to the Regional Committees are the Zone Committees. To define more clearly the role of the Zone Committees, they shall be evaluated and their current structure, functioning, tasks, methods and working procedures shall be reviewed.

6. Grassroots Committees

The Grassroots Committees shall continue to be the primary structures of the FSLN. Given, however, that they have proven to function deficiently in certain cases, while in other cases they are structured in a way that does not appear to be the most appropriate means of conveying the influence and power of the FSLN to the different sectors of the population, we shall proceed to review both the functioning and the structuring of the Grassroots Committees so that the necessary corrections can be made.

This entails an analysis of the internal make-up of the Grassroots Committees, their political-ideological demands, their organizational dynamics, their external projection, their ties with the masses as an organization and as individual members, and the opinion the masses have of the Grassroots Committees.

Secretariat of the National Board of the Sandinist National Liberation Front

Managua, 3 August 1985

Free Fatherland or Death

Sandinist Assembly and Regional Agencies

Executive Committee of the National Board

Coordinator: Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra
Vice-coordinator: Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce Castano
Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez
Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega Saavedra
Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock Roman

Sandinist Assembly

1. Alvaro Baltodano
2. Agustin Lara Valdivia
3. Antenor Rosales
4. Christian Pichardo Ramirez
5. Carlos Brenes Sanchez
6. Carlos Manuel Morales
7. Carlos Jose Zamora Herrera
8. Carlos Fernando Chamorro Barrios
9. Carlos Carrion Cruz
10. Dora Maria Tellez Arguello
11. Dionisio Marenco Gutierrez

12. Doris Tijerino Haslam
13. David Blanco Nunez
14. Daniel Nunez Rodriguez
15. Ernesto Cardenal Martinez
16. Ernesto Castillo Martinez
17. Emmett Lang
18. Edgardo Garcia Aguilar
19. Fernando Cardenal Martinez
20. Francisco Rivera Quintero
21. Federico Lopez Arguello
22. Gladys Baez
23. Herty Lewites
24. Hugo Torres Jimenez
25. Harry Chavez Cerdas
26. Jacinto Suarez
27. Jose David Zuniga
28. Julio Lopez Campos
29. Julio Ramos Arguello
30. Javier Pichardo Ramirez
31. Javier Carrion Mc. D.
32. Joaquin Cuadra Lacayo
33. Juan Jose Ubeda Herrera
34. Luis Enrique Figueroa
35. Lenin Cerna Juarez
36. Luis Armando Guzman Luna
37. Leonel Espinoza
38. Leopoldo Rivas Alfaro
39. Leticia Herrera Sanchez
40. Lucio Jimenez Guzman
41. Lea Guido Lopez
42. Lourdes Jiron Cucalon
43. Lumberto Campbell Hooker
44. Monica Baltodano Marcenaro
45. Mauricio Valenzuela Sotomayor
46. Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann
47. Manuel Rivas Vallecillo
48. Manuel Calderon
49. Manuel Salvatierra Rivera
50. Marta Isabel Cranshaw Guerra
51. Marcos Valle Martinez
52. Nadine Lacayo Rener
53. Omar Cabezas Lacayo
54. Oswaldo Lacayo Gabuardi
55. Omar Hallesleven
56. Olga Aviles Lopez
57. Rene Nunez Tellez
58. Rene Vivas Lugo
59. Renan Monteros
60. Roberto Calderon Meza
61. Sergio Ramirez Mercado
62. Salvador Mayorga Sacasa
63. Serafin Garcia

64. Sabino Aguilar Ochoa
65. Vanessa Castro
66. Victor Hugo Tinoco
67. Walter Ferrety Fonseca
68. William Ramirez Solorzano
69. Alonso Porras Diaz
70. Alvaro Ramirez Gonzalez
71. Alfredo Alaniz
72. Aurora Nunez
73. Ariel Bucardo
74. Alejandro Guevara
75. Carlos Jose Guadamuz
76. Carlos Mejia Godoy
77. Domingo Martinez
78. Dharma Lila Carrasquilla
79. Damaso Vargas
80. Eleonora Rocha
81. Emilio Baltodano Cantarero
82. Edgard Guerrero
83. Francisco Lacayo
84. Flor de Maria Monterrey
85. Gloria Campos Trana
86. Gustavo Moreno
87. Joaquin Solis Piura
88. Jose Figueroa
89. Jose Gonzalez
90. Juan Lorenzo Santana
91. Jose Antonio Sanjinez
92. Margine Gutierrez
93. Nora Astorga
94. Nathan Sevilla
95. Pedro Hurtado
96. Rosario Murillo
97. Ramon Cabrales
98. Roger Miranda
99. Ramon Masis
100. Raul Venerio
101. Ricardo Coronel Kautz
102. Salvador Munoz
103. Silvio Casco Marenco
104. Samuel Santos
105. Tobias Gadea

Regional Leadership Organizations

Region I

C: Carlos Manuel Morales
Jeff Hernandez
Rosario Bravo
Jose Francisco Mendieta
Christian Pichardo

Manuel Salvatierra
Ivan Gutierrez
Ulises Gonzalez

Region II

C: Marta Isabel Cranshaw
David Blanco
Javier Pichardo
Alonso Porras
Gladys Baez
Rafael Mairena
Mary Bolt
Quxabel Cardenas
Gloria Carrion
Francisco Lacayo

Region III

C: Carlos Carrion
Julio Ramos
Omar Cabezas
Samuel Santos
Carlos Gallo
Darma Lila Carrasquilla
Clorinda Zelaya
Xavier Alvarez
Lourdes Jiron
Moises Hassan

Region IV

C: Federico Lopez
Javier Moncada
Leopoldo Rivas
Marcelino Guido
Miguel Gomez
Nadine Lacayo
Marta Lucia Cuadra
Ximena Oyanguren
Ricardo Cruz
Mercedes Vigil

Region V

C: Agustin Lara
Roberto Calderon
Fernando Caldera
Horacio Cuadra
Sadie Rivas
Rodrigo Portocarrero
Wilfredo Barreto

Jorge Abarca
Ramon Gutierrez
Cesar Quezada

Region VI

C: Carlos Zamora
Juan Jose Ubeda
Jose Valdivia
Miguel Barrios
Napoleon Loaisiga
Margine Gutierrez
Freddy Guevara
Lucia Lorio
Nelly Castillo
Noel Escobar

Special Zone I

C: David Zuniga
Mirna Cunningham
Jose Gonzalez
Antenor Rosales
Dorotea Wilson
Antonio Rivera
Albert Sinclair
Aleyda Chow
Minerva Wilson

Special Zone II

C: Lumberto Campbell
Xavier Altamirano
Leonel Espinoza
Tomas Gordon
Harry Chavez
Lenin Florez
Patricia Delgado
Julio Martinez
Carlos Castro
Ray Hookers

Special Zone III

C: Alejandro Guevara
Bosco Centeno
Juan Ruiz
Sergio Martinez
Alvaro Reyes
Manuel Urroz
Eddy Molina

19 July Sandinist Youth

The National Board of the FSLN will propose to the 19 July Sandinist Youth (JS19J) National Council that Comrade Pedro Hurtado be named general coordinator of our youth detachment.

Auxiliary Departments

Rene Nunez, Marcos Valle, Secretariat of General Affairs; Lea Guido, Department of Organization; Julio Lopez, Gustavo Moreno, Jose Pasos, Department of International Relations; Vanessa Castro, Octavio Caldera, Department of Political Education; Flor Monterrey, Institute of Sandinist Studies; Carlos F. Chamorro, Adilia E. Solis, Eva Teller, Department of Agitation and Propaganda; Plutarco Coredero, Jose Luis Aburto, Department of Finance.

8926

CSO: 3248/515

NICARAGUA

CHURCH CENTER, BISHOP VIEW DISPUTE WITH FSLN

PA131356 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Excerpts] The Antonio Valdivieso Ecumenical Center, whose director is Father Uriel Molina, has asserted the following in a document released today:

During the last few weeks the campaign of accusations against the Antonio Valdivieso Ecumenical Center, at a local and international level by a sector of the Nicaraguan church hierarchy, has grown worse. It is nothing new, as this sector has assailed, from the beginning, the difficult course taken by this center and its efforts to accompany revolutionary Nicaragua with a Christian line of thinking during its initial stages.

The pretext--an anonymous note which has been attributed to the center just like that, and which some continue to attribute to it despite the strong manner in which the director disclaimed any involvement in its drafting--is nothing new.

Certain bishops insist that the cause of the divisions and the war which the country is enduring is the ideology of the FSLN, which allegedly would inculcate class struggle and hatred. These bishops feel that the dissemination of this ideology represents an aggression by international communism against our Christian people. The ideological aggression would presumably explain and justify armed rebellion by some Nicaraguan sectors and even U.S. intervention.

This analysis explains such disconcerting facts as the bishops' silence in the face of the kidnappings and murders of youths, peasants, and Miskitos, and the wanton murder of the mothers at Mulukuku.

The church must learn and teach how to view things from the perspective of the poor, whose cause is that of Christ. We, the Nicaraguan bishops, are not asking for any privilege for the church other than that of being able to carry out the church's task of evangelization as a humble but precious service to the people. To us, setting limits to and stressing the errors of the FSLN does not mean questioning its substantive fidelity to the original program of the revolution or casting doubts on the human, political, and moral qualities of its leaders and activists. Setting limits to and noting errors by the FSLN in its dealing with the church does not mean attributing an anti-Christian or totalitarian ideology to it. The FSLN's human and political confidence in the

Christians who agree with its program and its struggles is unquestionable and represents a unique opportunity to invest the liberating energies of Christian faith in this historical crossroads toward the formation of new men and nations.

Also, it is necessary to stress the honesty with which the FSLN's leaders have admitted and corrected some of the errors that have been committed and the courage with which they are currently promoting a climate of candid self-criticism and collective introspection throughout the nation.

This is part of the document that was released by the Antonio Valdivieso Ecumenical Center today.

Monsignor Bismarck Carballo, spokesman for the curia, will now refer to the document by the Antonio Valdivieso Center that was released today.

[Begin recording] First, I would like to reassert that the Antonio Valdivieso Center has taken a position that is totally contrary to the bishops' pastoral letter and, as a matter of fact, has often attacked and showed no respect for the bishop's pastoral authority over the church.

I think that if there is a sincere desire for reconciliation and change it must take place within the church by accepting the values and fundamental pillars of the church, which are part of the church and have the nature of a divine institution. One of them is the authority of the bishops as legitimate pastors of the church; [and another one is] the authority of the pope. Above all, the fundamental values of the faith must be accepted.

This has had serious repercussions because many Catholics have felt totally disillusioned with the attitude of the Valdivieso Center which looks, more than anything, like a fifth column within the church and not like a body that had proclaimed itself as ecclesial. [end recording]

CSO: 3248/528

NICARAGUA

WHEELOCK ON ACHIEVEMENTS, GOALS OF AGRARIAN REFORM

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 8 Jul 85 p 3

[Interview with Jaime Wheelock Ramon, minister of agricultural-livestock development and agrarian reform; date and place not specified]

[Text] Thanks to the land distribution program that began last week and will culminate on 16 July--Agrarian Reform Day--thousands of peasants all over the country who have been excluded in the past or displaced by counterrevolutionary aggression will be able to start a new life.

This is part of the 1985 Sixth Anniversary Campaign, and its framework is a plan for making adjustments to the program for change under the stimulus of MIDINRA [Ministry of Agricultural-Livestock Development and Agrarian Reform]. Those adjustments will benefit primarily small-scale production by individuals in areas where smallholdings are concentrated and some 1,300 families that needed to be resettled.

In this edition of "Socioeconomic Monday," we are publishing an exclusive interview with Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock Ramon, minister of agricultural-livestock development and agrarian reform, concerning the character and objectives of the current policy for the distribution of land.

BARRICADA: How do the changes in land tenure fit into the strategy for agricultural and livestock development?

Commander Wheelock: We have been working these past 6 years on the structural transformation of agricultural property while simultaneously carrying out two tasks that are of capital importance. One is to correct the inappropriate use of land, while the other is to continue setting up development poles that will ensure the economic organization of producers who have always been dispersed and backward.

Concerning the first of those tasks, we have sought to take advantage of the real potential of the soil by assigning the growing of basic cereals to the most appropriate regions, which are the flat regions along the Pacific and the country's interior valleys. At the same time, coffee production and its modernization as well as stockraising are being encouraged in the mountain areas, since those activities are suitable for the agroecological conditions found there.

From the standpoint of restructuring ownership, we will have accumulated 3.5 million manzanas [1 manzana = 1.74 acres] subject to conversion by the end of 1985. Of that total, 624,000 manzanas have been transferred to cooperatives for the benefit of 30,000 families, and another 52,000 manzanas have been turned over to 15,000 individual owners.

As far as title transfers are concerned, ownership of 1.28 million manzanas has been confirmed in the form of special titles granted, in general, to squatters whose tenure was not secure. In addition, another 50,000 manzanas have been transferred to Indian communities for the benefit of over 3,000 families.

In all, we have benefited 65,000 families through those title transfers, and I would say that that represents fairly sizable coverage of the vulnerable peasant population by agrarian reform activities.

BARRICADA: What was the reason for revising the plan for changes in the structure of land tenure during 1985, and what influence has the aggression had on those changes?

Commander Wheelock: This year we will continue the process of agrarian changes basically for the benefit of landless peasant families on marginal land or on land not suitable for food production. At the same time, we will respond to the problems represented by the resettlement of thousands of peasant families now living in the mountain areas who have been harmed by the counterrevolutionary gangs.

For that purpose, we have scheduled the transfer of 645,000 manzanas as follows: 164,000 manzanas to cooperatives, 62,000 to individual peasants, 350,000 to squatters, and 70,000 to the Indian communities. This means that we will be benefiting an additional 23,000 families, and that will bring to 87,000 the number of families that have benefited from the agrarian reform plans.

Moreover, several properties administered by the state were turned over during the first few months of this year to resettlement groups located primarily in Regions I and VI, and there were also massive purchases from private landowners who, understanding the situation of conflict, cooperated by selling their farms.

In that connection, 150 properties were negotiated: 62 properties covering a total of 6,000 manzanas were acquired in Region I for 60 million cordobas, and

82 covering an area of 20,300 manzanas were purchased in Region VI for 160 million cordobas. And another four properties totaling 714 manzanas were acquired in Special Zone I for 2 million cordobas. That makes a total of 27,000 manzanas purchased for 233 million cordobas.

BARRICADA: How has land tenure changed this year in favor of small-scale peasant ownership?

Commander Wheelock: This year we had to establish the zone for agricultural-livestock development and agrarian reform in the Department of Masaya to resolve one of the most serious specific conflicts we were facing in that department. We carried out the first expropriation of 1985, which, as everyone knows, was the expropriation of SAIMSA. With the rest of the landowners in that zone, we are in fact negotiating.

This unquestionably establishes a norm, in the sense that we are attempting to solve agrarian problems through negotiation and with the assent of the producers. It must be pointed out that in some cases, we have encountered unwillingness on the part of those producers, and when alternatives were possible, we have not applied more pressure. But when it is a question of restoring land to peasants who have been displaced and whose interests have in fact been harmed, we have had to resort to expropriation.

Here is the situation with respect to land tenure: landholdings of more than 500 manzanas accounted for 36 percent of the total in 1978, but in 1985, their share is down to 11 percent. Properties of less than 10 manzanas, on the other hand, totaled 2 percent in 1978, but this year their share is 20 percent. And agrarian reform enterprises cover 19 percent of the total.

In addition, there is a large group of medium-sized landowners with from 50 to 200 manzanas who have kept their property. Their share of the total remains unchanged at 30 percent.

We feel, therefore, that agrarian reform has been a factor for the democratization of rural property. We previously had Somozaism, which was strongly dominated by large landholdings covering 30 percent of the best land. In other words, there was an economic dictatorship that excluded and harmed peasants, small farmers, and landless peasants, from whom it withheld opportunity, and it also threatened medium-sized landowners.

We have therefore progressed to a more pluralistic structure which constitutes a guarantee of participation by all the peasants and which claims the right of Nicaraguans living in the rural areas to live from the land. From that standpoint, we have applied the universally accepted principle that property cannot be an exclusive and perpetual possession, especially when such ownership conflicts with the peasants' right to survival.

On the other hand, we have been very careful, in carrying out agrarian reform, to avoid harming well-operated and efficient properties, especially those that

are worked by their owners directly. When it has been necessary to do so, we have proceeded through negotiation and always when compelled by circumstances.

BARRICADA: Why has there been a drive recently to transfer land to individual peasants and grant title to small individual properties rather than link that land to the establishment of cooperatives?

Commander Wheelock: During the years of the revolution, we have established four production sectors: the state sector, cooperatives, small and medium-sized properties, and business or large properties.

Each of those components of agrarian ownership is handled under a policy aimed at stability and provision of the necessary equipment for guaranteeing suitable production levels--for example, through credit and price policy.

But it is worth pointing out that we have been concerned during this period to establish two major sectors of ownership in particular: the state enterprises and a vast cooperative movement that was set up partly by the flexible method of partnership through credit and services and partly in the form of collective land ownership based on voluntary membership.

In developing that movement, we observed that there were small landowners and landless peasants who preferred individual ownership because the land would then be assigned to them individually, and since 1984 we have been paying more attention to that type of distribution. The result is that during 1984 and 1985, we will have allotted a total of 120,000 manzanas with individual titles of ownership.

We will continue this process in 1985, with the result that the trend toward an increase in small properties will be accentuated. The reason is that the system of cooperatives is more complex, requires certain levels of cultural understanding, production development, organization, training, intensive production methods, mechanization, the use of agricultural chemicals, infrastructure, collection centers, and so on.

We therefore feel that fulfillment of a strongly felt peasant demand would take a long time if we tried to solve the land problem solely by organizing cooperatives. Cooperatives are in fact the most appropriate form of organization because they raise the social and economic level in the rural sector, but that type of organization has its difficulties if carried out over perhaps too long a period.

BARRICADA: Does this mean that agrarian reform has changed direction?

Commander Wheelock: I would not say that it has changed direction, but that it has found more suitable ways of meeting the peasants' demands more simply. We got onto a certain track that left out those peasants who are not inclined to join a cooperative because they do not understand that approach. But the demand is there, and when we detected that strong feeling, we opened up a third component, which is agrarian reform in the form of individual peasant ownership.

BARRICADA: But isn't it true that technical and financial assistance and all the mechanisms for stimulating production become more complex if they must be distributed to a mass of unorganized individual peasants?

Commander Wheelock: That is true, but two conditions must be met for assignment to individuals. The first is that the land we assign must be suitable for peasant production. This has involved a few problems because most of the land we have for distribution is in the country's interior where, in addition to the property recovered from Somozaism, there are also the vast national lands whose agroecological features make them generally unsuitable for the production of basic cereals, which is the predominant activity among peasants. So we must move very carefully to find agricultural land, assign it, and grant title to it.

The second condition is that when the interest of the peasant producing basic cereals does not coincide with proper use of the soil, we must go through a period of organizing and allotting additional resources so that the individual will use the land for some other purpose--stockraising, for example--and that involves a degree of investment in equipment.

So then, the strong pressure which existed for land and which caused massive peasant support for the revolution is being met more or less gradually. What remains are those places in the country where land has not yet been allotted. There we will try to resolve the situation by acquiring property from landowners through negotiation or by assigning land that has been under state administration.

It should be pointed out that not all the land expropriated from Somozaism is being administered by state enterprises, but there is enough land potentially available to enable MIDINRA to solve land problems.

BARRICADA: How have the state enterprises responded to the challenge of being profitable, and on what factors do their economic results depend?

Commander Wheelock: There are state enterprises that are very streamlined economically, are compact, and operate efficiently. In general, they are the firms which, on being confiscated from Somozaism, were already organized as agroindustries. That is the case with the rice, banana, and tobacco enterprises and the sugarmills, which have not only retained their character as economically profitable enterprises but have also improved thanks to new investments, better organization and control, and so on.

There are also the agroindustrial processing enterprises, examples being the coffee processing plants, the processing plants for dairy products, and the slaughterhouses, which are also profitable, well organized, and well operated.

Another group consists of agricultural enterprises of the territorial type, which were set up by combining the more or less scattered units confiscated from Somozaism. These were concerned with stockraising, coffee, or cotton, and there have been difficulties with them because despite their social and

economic importance, their pattern of organization is not always profitable because of the higher cost of transportation, raw materials, and so on.

Naturally, this is not the case with all enterprises of this type, and what we are trying to do is make them more compact as we search for an intrinsically profitable territorial model. During these years, we have been working to set up territorial blocks for agriculture and stockraising, and we have made remarkable progress with coffee in Region VI, with cotton in Region II, and with stockraising in Region V.

Another group consists of the planned new enterprises, for which a concept of economic and financial organization has existed from the start. Examples are the African palm project, the Victoria de Julio mill, and the Chiltepe dairy project. A superior economic model applies to them.

11798

CSO: 3248/462

PARAGUAY

INTERRELATION BETWEEN ECONOMIC, POLITICAL POWERS ANALYZED

Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 21 Aug 85 p 14

[Article by Efrain Enriquez Gamon]

[Text] With John Kenneth Galbraith's analysis of the causes and effects of the 1929-1933 Depression as his point of departure, the author of this article analyzes the dependency of the economic power on the political power and the characteristics of a recent golden era in our economy that came to its end because its sources of wealth dried up and a recession set in. To free ourselves of the latter, the formula is as easy, as it were, as the dictum that we must work harder and run faster.

In his well-known book "The Age of Uncertainty," the economist John Kenneth Galbraith analyzes clearly and revealingly the causes and effects of the tense decades that preceded and followed the great world depression and crisis of 1929-1933, from the economic as well as the social and political standpoints.

Its pages examine a succession of political systems and policies, successful ones and disastrous ones, that accompanied that disturbing socioeconomic event. The embers left by the so-called First World War (1914-1918), the start of centralized planning in the Soviet Union under the aegis of Marxist doctrine in 1917, the blossoming of Fascism in Italy (1922) and of national socialism in Germany (1933): These were all precursors and consequences of the deep-seated frustrations that beset the societies of that time. And all of that interplay of opposing interests and of outdated and nascent ideologies finally resulted in the Second World War (1939-1945), from whose lethal wounds and effects society has not yet fully recovered.

But it is not a matter solely of that which can be measured or evaluated in terms of its strictly political aspect, since often--and this depends largely on the socioeconomic structure of each country--the "political" phenomenon, even though it is a factor of considerable weight in human affairs, boils down to but an unforgoable consequence of the way in which economic

and social questions are dealt with. Nevertheless, the problem can show up in reverse, and this is the case, I believe, in our country, where everything revolves around the political function.

In this respect and by way of a parenthesis, a U.S. sociologist once said that, characteristically, and generally speaking, in the developed countries the politicians cluster around those who hold the economic power; whereas in the underdeveloped countries, it is, on the contrary, the economic factors that depend on and cluster around those who hold the political power, this being--he adduces--in this case, the real power that turns the wheel of events.

If we accept this thesis as valid, we are very likely to agree that, in our case, this is the profile that truly delineates the armor-plated context in which we live. Here, the fact is that everything depends, for its motion, on the factor expressed in the political power. And even the so-called existing pressure forces or groups--such as could be, for example, the associations that agglutinate different economic and cultural activities and interests, the workers unions, and even the sports associations, without excluding even the political-party-type groups vying as organizations to gain and hold the power of government--are unable to cut the umbilical cord that binds them to the political factor.

In our country--and without denying the fact that the same phenomenon can exist at other latitudes--economic power has always been built on political power as its foundation. Without getting too deeply mired in historical roots, that is what occurred and manifested itself, for example, in the long hegemony of Paraguayan liberalism from 1904 to 1940. The big landowners and merchants, the affluent lawyers of foreign firms, et cetera, gradually became what they were and grew under the protective umbrella of, and propelled by, the political power.

Nowadays, different opinions find a common ground in the view that, in prioritized order, the most pressing problem is the economic one, and not the political one as such.

Perhaps this view is the consequence of that golden era we once called our era of financial boom and teeming consumption. (See our book: "Economia Paraguaya" [Paraguayan Economy], under "Issues" pp 173-183). Our era of financial boom and teeming consumption, we said, was characterized mainly by a situation in which various social groups found themselves favored by a set of transitory circumstances that enabled them to create new fortunes or add considerably to what they already had, and we listed six [as published; see later] causative factors as being the most significant in a numbered sequence: 1) Public sector investments in capital stock and working capital for the construction of basic infrastructural facilities, one of the conditions that enabled the creation of outboard economies for the development of private activities; 2) Monetary stability and the influx of foreign capital. This capital flowed into banks and financial institutions, and into the forming or expansion of enterprises, some of them productive

and others simply speculative and commercial; 3) Burgeoning of the farming frontier, through the introduction of agricultural production technologies, as in the cases of soy and wheat and in that of the increase in volume of the cotton crop, all of which paved the way for the rise of entrepreneurial organizations of significant economic potential; 4) The substantial growth of revenues in certain sectors, owing to a pattern that has become customary and a source of fat business profits in our environment: The illicit import or export of merchandise via the "parallel" market and the glutting of the marketplace with foreign products of mass as well as limited consumption, such as luxury articles that are within reach only of the rich and the very rich. Those engaged in this type of activity find soft and fertile terrain for the sowing and amassing of enormous monetary profits, which are relatively easy to garner via two main routes: One, via the substantial price differences between the articles brought into the country and those produced here or that enter the country illegally; and the other, by the appropriation of the tax sums--and more recently, the foreign exchange--which they fail to pay to the tax collector and deposit with the Central Bank. This type of activity has become so evident and disturbing that even the chief magistrate of the nation, in his Annual Message to the National Congress of 1 April just past, went so far as to affirm emphatically the Government's determination to strive, with all the powers available to the state, against the smugglers, who not only break the country's laws but also, like anti-patriotic persons, conspire against the national interests; 5) Increased revenues generated by the construction industry. Until 15 years ago, we commented in 1980, we grew in an essentially spontaneous manner in this field. But during the last 10 years, in step with the Itaipu project and with other factors of lesser relevance, our growth has been induced and dynamic. The creation of the National Housing Savings and Loan System, even though scaled down with respect to its primary aims, and the availability of surpluses or savings in some sectors, have generated a kind of fever in the construction industry. Thus, just as in other times the "fashion" was to acquire a ranch, today the fashion is to acquire a building, or several buildings, even though the market is glutted with them, over and above real demand; and lastly, 7) [as published], and as a special case, there can be no doubt that the biggest and most formidable source for the generation of new and growing revenues was the Itaipu project. With Itaipu there came into being the case where, directly or indirectly, a sector well differentiated from the rest of the national population slipped into the groove of what we might call the financial "jet set" with even international extrapolations.

In this way, these seven [as published] trends, or lodes, generative of new and expanding revenues, made possible the growth of the financial resources of a few social estates. That financial boom, thus induced and fed, came to its end in its principal aspects, precisely as we had anticipated in its time. At least three sources diminished, ceased or dried up. These were: a) The influx of foreign capital; b) The construction industry; and c) The Itaipu project. Also, our monetary and exchange stability came to an end in 1982. And since this country has neither gold mines nor oil, nor a

developed and strong national industry, the driving forces narrowed down to what we do have: Farming, livestock and forestry, which are the traditional pillars of our economy.

In conclusion, and since we saw the recession coming, which is the anteroom of economic depression, we cautioned that it was necessary to take cognizance of the fact that our economic future does not depend on the financial process alone. And that all the dynamism and enthusiasm that was being applied to the creation and management of the financial process, should be put, but in an enhanced form, into genuine economic activities, namely, farming and industry, requiring, as of the utmost urgency, an in-depth revision of economic policy, from the standpoint of its three mainstays: 1) Fiscal policy; 2) Monetary and credit policy; and 3) Policy as regards productive activity.

In view of all of which, we believe that, having come to the end of our "honeymoon" with the financial boom and overabundance of consumption, we have come back full circle to the point of facing up to the reality that to maintain our position, to survive and to progress from it, we must work harder and run faster, a solution that in turn must stem from a decision based on a common accord and national solidarity. As for the rest, this is a situation that is characteristic of the evolution of human societies, a situation on which all the political power available--laws, government, institutions--must be brought to bear as a function of the economic power, not as a means of advantaging just a few chosen sectors, but rather the society as a whole, creating the conditions needed to benefit from the country's actual and potential resources in their different dimensions and alternatives.

We are still in time. Perhaps for some--the more pessimistic among us--we may already be at the threshold of what Galbraith calls the era of uncertainty, from which there is no escape short of paying a high price in economic and social terms. This is why it is definitely less harmful to accept a reality as a problem--a problem that as human beings we will ultimately succeed in resolving. But what is really worrisome and leaves a country or an individual "py'aká" (breathless and choking) is rather the state of uncertainty, which is the anteroom of the corridor that leads to a vacuum. We are optimists. And the Paraguayan has sufficient capability to vanquish vacillation and doubt. Let's not pay the price of uncertainty; let's pay the price of progress and development.

9399
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PARAGUAY

23 PERCENT INCREASE IN 1986 FISCAL BUDGET REPORTED

Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 20 Aug 85 p 12

[Text] The National General Budget bill for 1986, the study of which the Finance Ministry is finalizing, is expected to come to 488,000 million guaranies, up 23 percent over the current 1985 budget, which totals 396,000 million guaranies. The new budgetary level takes into account a rise in prices of goods and services and a rise of 10 to 15 percent for wage and salary adjustments.

Dr Dario Zarate Arellano, director of the budget, explained that the special committee appointed for this task is nearing the end of its work, although the final adjustment between receipts and current expenses is still pending, so that any difference that may eventually exist is still unknown. According to the above-named expert, the effort of the Budget Department officials is being directed toward reducing expenditures by the different offices of the Central Administration, decentralized agencies and public sector enterprises to a level tending toward a budgetary balance.

Current expenses will total some 280,000 million guaranies and capital expenditures some 208,000 million guaranies, inclusive of the Central Administration, decentralized agencies and state-owned enterprises. The capital budget includes investments and payments on the domestic and foreign debts of the public sector. Thus, current expenditures will represent some 57 percent of the budget and capital expenditures some 43 percent.

"The work we are doing now is aimed at reducing spending and finding new sources of revenue so as to narrow the budgetary gap," said Zarate Arellano.

In this respect, planning calls for the agencies to transfer a total of 7,000 million guaranies to the Central Administration.

Spending by the Central Administration will total some 109,000 million guaranies for current expenses and 46,000 million guaranies for capital expenditures. These figures represent 71 percent and 29 percent, respectively, of the total. This indicates that there will be heavy investments made through the decentralized agencies and public sector enterprises, whose capital expenditures will total some 162,000 million guaranies, or

77.9 percent of the capital expenditures of the budget as a whole. Thus, the Central Administration's share of the budget's capital expenditures will total 22.1 percent.

The decentralized agencies and state-owned enterprises together will spend 171,000 million guaranies for current expenses and 162,000 million guaranies for capital outlays, for a total of 330,000 million guaranies. Thus, 68.2 percent of the budget will be going to the agencies and 31.8 percent to the Central Administration.

Under the heading of current expenses, the agencies will be absorbing 61 percent of the budget, and the Central Administration 39 percent. In the decentralized agencies sector, capital outlays will represent 48.6 percent and current expenses 51.4 percent.

Compared with this year's budget, the Central Administration's capital expenditures next year will increase by 34.13 percent, representing the difference between 34,300 million and 46,000 million guaranies.

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CSO: 3348/950

PERU

ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE, LEGISLATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Education, Economy, Fishing, Justice

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 20 Aug 85 p A-4

[Excerpts] The following appointments have been made:

Education

Assistant director of INIDE [National Institute for Educational Research and Development], Americo Vinco Bibolini Trucios.

Head of the National Institute on Educational Infrastructure, Victor Alejandro Sanchez Olano.

Economy

General director of the Legal Advice Office, Rogelio Leon Seminario.

Foreign Relations

Adviser to the Presidency of the Republic, Guillermo Russo Checa.

Fishing

Executive Council of the Technological Fishing Institute: Jorge Luna Cardenas (executive director), Cesar Vargas Luna, Jorge Arturo Portocarrero, Ramon Perez Prieto, Carlos Lopez de Castilla Bado and Edison Guiven Flores.

Board of CERPER [Public Enterprise for Fishing Certificates]: Magda Maravi Navarro, Rafael Masias Fernandez, Carlos Shimomura Ura, Samuel Bendezu Herencia, Octavio Diaz Trelles.

Executive Council of IMARPE [Sea Institute of Peru]: Rogelio Villanueva Flores (executive director), Norma Chirichigno Fonseca, Luis Barandiaran Pagador, Ulises Robles Freyre and Jorge del Aguila Sanchez.

Justice

Reorganization Committee for INABIF [National Family Welfare Institute]: Alejandro Castro Franco (chairman), Gloria Becerra de Corvacho, Antonio Saenz Guardia, Jose Eugenio Castaneda Maldonado, Gustavo Mendoza Taramona, Clara Cordova Rivera and Rosa Tsuchida Tello.

Interior, Economy, Energy

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 15 Aug 85 p A-5

[Excerpt] The following appointments have been made:

Ministry of Interior

Departmental Prefectures:

Piura: Enrique Andrade Talledo

Huanuco: Guillermo Velarde Flores

Pasco: Juan Aguero de la Mata

Ancash: Marino Rodriguez Rios

Madre de Dios: Ricardo Lopez del Aguila

Ministry of Economy

Head of the General Customs Directorate, Leonel Figueroa Ramirez.

Ministry of Energy

Deputy minister of energy, Luis Chang Reyes.

Chief of the National Defense Office, Victor Felix Rojas Quintana.

General director of the General Administration Office, German Soriano Diaz.

Board of ELECTROPERU [Peruvian State Electric Power Enterprise]: Manuel Lescano Rivero, Jaime Calmet Hart, Juan Orellana Zuniga, Victor Tantalean Vanini, Carlos Villalobos and Felix Saldana.

Deputies Foreign Affairs Commission

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 20 Aug 85 p A-4

[Text] Foreign Minister

It has been announced that Foreign Minister Alan Wagner will meet with the Commission on Foreign Relations, Integration and Interparliamentary Affairs of the Chamber of Deputies.

This commission headed by deputy Carlos Roca Caceres includes Jose Barba Caballero, Victor Alfaro de la Pena, Luis Alvarado Contreras, Alfredo Barnechea Garcia, Francisco Belaunde Terry, Miguel Cavero Egusquiza, Francisco Diez

Canseco Tavara, Gustavo Espinoza Montesinos, Fredy Ghilardi Alvarez, Agustin Haya de la Torre, Luis Izabeta and Aristides Valer Lopera.

Senate Foreign Relations Commission

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 14 Aug 85 p A-5

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Alan Wagner Tizon will meet separately next Tuesday with the foreign relations commissions of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies in order to explain the new government's foreign policy.

This was announced yesterday by senator Carlos Enrique Melgar Lopez and deputy Carlos Roca Caceres, respective chairmen of those commissions.

Melgar's commission is made up by senators Armando Villanueva del Campo, Luis Felipe de las Casas Grieve and Alfonso Ramos Alva of the PAP [Aprista Party of Peru]; Enrique Bernales Ballesteros and Edmundo Murrugarra of the United Left; and Manuel Ulloa Elias of the AP [Popular Action].

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CSO: 3348/932

PERU

SIDER-PERU OFFICERS, BOARD, PLANS ANNOUNCED

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 15 Aug 85 p A-7

[Text] The new chairman of the board of SIDER-PERU [Peruvian State Iron and Steel Enterprise], engineer Guillermo Balcazar Rioja, announced yesterday that they want to fully utilize the Chimbote Steel plant in order to make Peru one of the main steel producers in Latin America.

He said this when the new board that he heads was introduced. Officials as well as delegations of workers from Chimbote participated in this ceremony held in the SIDER-PERU offices on Avenida Tacna in Lima.

During the ceremony, engineer Samame Boggio was appointed vice president of the board and engineer Carlos Alvarado Gavidia was named general manager.

Balcazar, who has had extensive experience in that field, mentioned consolidation of the SIDER-PERU revitalization program as well as the preservation, implementation and development of the primary steel enterprise in the country.

He pointed out that, with active participation from officials and workers, his board will be able to revitalize the Peruvian steel industry and place it on a competitive level with its counterparts in other countries on the continent.

He made an appeal to increase production and productivity in order to meet the demands of the national market within the new government's guidelines for austerity and morality. He maintained that connections in the national market and even abroad will be pursued more aggressively in order to achieve this.

He also emphasized that the board will maintain a permanent dialogue with the workers. Two of their representatives and people from the Industrial Community are on the new board.

Engineer Balcazar, who will leave at the end of the week for Chimbote, stressed that he will give immediate attention to a suggestion of the workers which agrees with the new board about the acquisition of a sufficient stock of refractories to meet the future needs of the blast furnaces and converters in the steel industry.

New Board

The board headed by engineer Balcazar Rioja includes: engineers Mario Samame Boggio, Fernando Arias Vera, Javier Galvan Costa, Alberto Alfaro Beltran, Ces- sar Garay Ghilardi, Abel Ponce Sanchez, Enrique Acha Cruz and Luis Babba Na- kao; and the representatives from the Industrial Community, engineer Juan Oshiro Oshiro and Cesar Sanchez Flores.

The spokesman for the enterprise revealed that 11,206 tons of construction iron were exported in recent days to the United States with an approximate value of \$2.5 million.

He pointed out that this means a notable increase in foreign currency for the country and will also mean additional revenue for SIDER-PERU through the CERTEX [Tax Repayment Certificate]. According to law, 10 percent of this will go to the Chimbote Council and the other municipalities in Santa Province.

He said that the material shipped on 7 August via two Peruvian ships opens up the important and demanding U.S. steel market.

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ST LUCIA

UNION STATES OBJECTIONS TO GOVERNMENT PAY HIKES

Castries CRUSADER in English 24 Aug 85 p 9

[Text]

Union Leaders in the State have reacted sharply to the increase in pay for Ministers and Parliamentarians.

Last week the St. Lucia House of Assembly approved a resolution tabled by Attorney General Lennard Riviere granting Parliamentarians a pay hike of 57 percent coupled with other benefits and conditions.

In a strongly worded statement to the Crusader, General Secretary of the St. Lucia Workers Union Mr. Titus Francis questioned whether it is fair for Parliamentarians to pay themselves wage increases of 57% while at the same time urge the rest of the nation to exercise wage restraint?

Mr Francis expressed the view that it is Government's responsibility to set the example, by exercising restraint, and considered it as being unreasonable to expect trade unions to exercise restraint in the light of the example set by Government.

(Full text of Mr. Francis' statement)

"The right to enjoy a reasonable standard of living is a basic right of all workers of society. Moreover, no man, woman or child should be forced to live in a manner that excludes them from the rest of society, but should be able to live according to the established customs of the community. The question therefore is: "Is it fair for Parliamentarians to pay themselves wage increases of 57% while at the same time urge the rest of the nation to exercise restraint?"

Paragraph 19 of the Nassau understanding to which this Government is a signatory states the following: "All parts of the society have a contribution to make to incomes restraint. Companies should limit dividend distribution and freeze executive salaries as well as fringe benefits for specified periods. The Trade Unions and their members have a part to play in limiting and moderating claims for increases in remuneration packages.... Governments themselves will exercise strict economy in public expenditure on wages and salaries and consumption.

The heads observe that incomes and prices restraint will give all of the economies a breathing space to translate productivity increases into more competitive cost structures which can be translated into creative investment, job opportunities, export and growth."

There seems to be a clear departure from the stated principles of the Nassau Understanding bearing in mind the 57% increase which Government has paid itself, which will inevitably exert more pressure on the economy and consequently lead to greater job loss in the public sector.

It is therefore unreasonable to expect trade unions to exercise restraint in view of the example set by Government whose duty it is to lead by example.

President of the Seamen and Waterfront General Workers Union, Peter Josie this week lashed out at the increase pay for Government Ministers, stating that most of the Ministers did not deserve the pay, since they were not working for it.

Mr. Josie said, "During our negotiations in the last two years, I was at pains to explain to our members why it was difficult for us to receive a higher percentage increase in pay for our members. It was very clear that management had certain guidelines that they were working from, in no where, at no work place did we get 10% increase in any one year.

The Government in its last Budget Address to the nation made it very clear that there was need for workers to be conservative in wage demands and all St. Lucians now must be concerned that the Parliamentarians have paid themselves a 57% increase, when it is obvious that the economy has not improved.

As members of a union we believe that all people who served should be renumerated adequately, all workers deserve a fair wage. We have no doubt about that in our minds, but we also believe that people cannot expect

to get money from sources where there are no monies, and if the economy has not improved, it seems strange that the Government should be voting themselves money at this time.

From the Unions point of view, as far as we are concern all wage demands should be backed by two positions: (1) The persons ability to pay and 2) The fairness of the wage based on the volume of work done. I would venture to say that some of the Ministers don't deserve the pay because they do not work for it.

Although I do believe that all Parliamentarians should be paid the kind of wage that would prevent them from wanting to make deals under the table or to engage in their own private business... The Ministers especially in the light of all the statements they have made before and especially since they pretended to decrease their pay by 10% when they had just got into power. I think they have tricked the people of St. Lucia and in industrial relation we don't believe in trickery. I think that was just cheap politics."

Efforts to contact other unions on the island proved fruitless, with the exception of the National Workers Union who informed us that they would be carrying their position in their own newspaper (Combat).

CSO: 3298/1050

ST LUCIA

BARBADOS TRADE MISSION DUE; FIRST SUCH VISIT

Castries THE VOICE in English 21 Aug 85 p 1

[Text]

A TRADE mission from Barbados is due here next Sunday to be followed by one for Puerto Rico next month, the export promotion corporation (EPC) has announced.

The EPC official said he is leading the four-day St. Lucia mission, which has attracted 15 manufacturers.

Products to be displayed in Castries include food products, fibre glass boats, gift items, wire hangers and roofing tiles.

FIGURE

He said Barbados exports to St. Lucia last year totalled 1.1 million dollars, while for the first quarter of this year the figure was put at 3.1 million dollars compared with 2.2 million dollars for the same period in 1984.

It is the first time that Barbados is sending a trade mission to the two countries and represents its desire to increase exports, EPC executive director Philip Williams told CANA.

Minister of Commerce and Industry, Louis Tull, will lead the 29 manufacturers to San Juan from September 21 to 28.

Williams said the mission will be displaying a number of items including garments, printed products and building materials.

SERVICE

He added that a number of service companies would be participating in the trip, including BWIA, the Trinidad and Tobago air carrier, CARICARGO, The Cargo Carrier, The Central Bank and the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC).

In 1984, Barbados exported 199.3 million dollars (one Bds. dollar = 50 U.S. cents) in goods, mainly electronic components to Puerto Rico, for the first quarter of the figure stood at 61.4 million dollars. (CANA)

CSO: 3298/1050

ST LUCIA

BRIEFS

UNION TRIPARTISM--Any individual or trade union which is against the concept of tripartism is a traitor to the working class which they so loudly claim to champion, Labour Minister, Clendon Mason has said. The Minister, who was at the time speaking to a conference of the Seamen, Waterfront and General Workers Union, pointed out that the concept of the international Labour Organisation (ILO) was one of tripartism with the government, trade unions, and employers coming together and working together for the improvement of all aspects of industrial relations in the country. [Excerpt] [Castries THE WEEKEND VOICE in English 24 Aug 85 p 1]

CSO: 3298/1050

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

MITCHELL URGED TO RESPOND TO CHARGES OF FAVORITISM

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 30 Aug 85 p 4

[Editorial]

.. The New Democratic Party has many friends. This was proved in the sweep to victory in the 1984 General Election. But more than its many friends, whose confidence in "Son" Mitchell has been built over the years it was the floating vote that put the NDP in power. Why did that floating vote swing so extensively towards Mitchell, when for years Milton Cato had held it in the palm of his hand? We believe that the corruption associated with the last government was as big a factor in influencing voters as the frustration and despondency that pervaded the nation -- and that is saying a lot!

.. Now citizens are faced with ugly rumours regarding the new government, including the unjustifiable resort to party favours. We believe that a lot of the rumours are based on political malice. However showing up the lies in distorted stories never hurt.

.. We would like to repeat our contention that supporters of a government who look for key positions or big financial rewards in return for their contribution to a party's success are defeating their own purpose. The object of supporting a party is surely to get the best possible leader at the nation's helm. If the leader is to be hamstrung by the obligation to repay his supporters; and the government is to be exposed to unnecessary resentment, jealousy and suspicion by those who are ruled out of what they regard as fair competition; the best environment for governing is automatically removed. The national opportunity for planning and achieving progress through unity and confidence is affected adversely, and with it the chance of a better way of life and security for individual citizens as a whole.

.. One controversial case is that of the Speaker. THE VINCENTIAN had advised against the appointment of Olin Dennie in the first instance. This advice had nothing to do with the young man's character. His political background and existing circumstances; inexperience and the lack of personal development and prestige necessarily associated with his youth were the basis. The fracas in the House at Budget time proves without a doubt that we were right. Young Dennie is not yet equipped to control the St. Vincent and the Grenadines House of Assembly. Perhaps if there were no John Thompsons or Stalky Johns he might be able to do a better job. However as things stand he should resign voluntarily or be instructed so to do.

.. Further, Dennie has been accused, rightly or wrongly, of becoming involved in a questionable legal deal. The matter should be clarified and not just left to generate unease among NDP supporters and Vincentians generally.

.. There are rumours circulating which, true or false, should be dealt with firmly by the Prime Minister. He should not treat the worries of Vincentians in a cavalier manner. He must know of the rumours. He must be aware of the distress they cause his friends in the absence of straightforward refutation or explanation. He must understand the confusion that they cause to those who trust him and expect that he will free the nation from corruption as pledged.

.. Mitchell has indicated that he will always be ready to involve the people in government

procedures. He must speak to us about the things that disturb us. The time is now. Two issues of importance that need clarifying are: (1) Have firm markets for our arrowroot starch been located? And if so who was responsible - Minister of Trade Industry and Agriculture Marcus De Freitas or the ECA? There is a world of difference. (2) Have the Danes made a demand for compensation for the acquisition of Orange Hill? If so how much? The electorate has a right to answers to these questions.

CSO: 3298/1051

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

MITCHELL CITES TRADE OPPORTUNITIES WITH COLOMBIA

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 9 Sep 85 p 5

[Text]

ST VINCENT and the Grenadines is preparing to enter into trade and joint venture investment agreements with Colombia, it was announced here by Prime Minister James Mitchell following his return from a one-week visit to that South American country at the head of a ten-member mission.

Mr. Mitchell said the mission aimed at establishing political and cordial commercial relations with Colombia.

"I am satisfied that (this goal) has been accomplished. As to how much progress we make depends entirely on our implementation here in St. Vincent and the Grenadines," he said.

He said the mission explained to the Colombians the opportunities for manufacturing here for export to the United States under the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI),

and to Europe under the provisions of the Lome III convention.

According to Mr. Mitchell, the Colombian Government, while not favouring Colombian industrialists investing on their own in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, is interested in joint venture arrangements between investors from the two countries. He reported that Colombian investors themselves had also expressed eagerness to work in joint ventures with Vincentian investors.

A rice-milling project, a poultry processing project, a lamp project, pre-fabricated housing and factory shells were among the projects already identified for implementation, the Prime Minister stated.

The rice-milling project would involve the importation of grain into St. Vincent from Colombia for milling and conversion into parboiled rice both for the local and regional markets.

He said St. Vincent and the Grenadines could sell Colombia its arrowroot starch, peanuts, waste paper from its box-making factory and scrap metal.

CSO: 3298/1051

SURINAME

HAAKMAT URGES ACCELERATED COORDINATION AMONG RESISTANCE

The Hague WEEKKRANT SURINAME in Dutch 3-9 Aug 85 p 5

[Article by "one of our reporters"]

[Text] The Hague--The Council for the Liberation of Suriname will shortly begin radio programs aimed at the Surinamese people in Suriname. The programs will be transmitted from the Caribbean region and will inform the Surinamese people about the true situation in the country.

Spokesman Wilfred Lionarons of the Council for the Liberation of Suriname noted in the KRO-Echo [Catholic Radio Broadcasting Echo] that the press in Suriname is still gagged.

Distanced

The leader of the Amsterdam Popular Resistance (A.V.V.), André Haakmat, has distanced himself from the radio transmissions that the Council for the Liberation of Suriname has now announced. Spokesman Lionarons stated that the reception of the transmissions in Suriname will be good, and that there is a great need in Suriname for news about the true situation in the country. The transmitter is being financed by contributions from Surinamese that hope that the democratic rule of law will speedily be restored in Suriname.

In the past 2 months orientation discussions have taken place with a view to bringing about coordination among four groupings that are working for democracy in Suriname. These are the Amsterdam Popular Resistance (A.V.V.), the Suriname Democratic Rule of Law (D.R.O.S.), the Suriname Democratic Alliance (D.A.S.), and the Council for the Liberation of Suriname (R.B.S.).

The leader of the A.V.V. sent an A.V.V. delegation to these discussions but did not take part himself. In the KRO-Echo radio program in which Haakmat distanced himself from the R.B.S.'s radio programs, however, Haakmat declared: "The resistance in the Netherlands must get together very shortly; otherwise they will miss the boat if discussions between the so-called old parties and the Military Authority get underway."

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SURINAME

RESISTANCE IN NETHERLANDS RESPONDING TO ASSASSINATION FEARS

The Hague WEEKKRANT SURINAME in Dutch 17-23 Aug 85 p 1

[Article by "one of our editors"]

[Text] Rotterdam--In recent days the Surinamese Liberation Council has set up its own guard service for its members after reports that a hit squad has arrived from Suriname with the assignment of getting rid of members of the Surinamese resistance in the Netherlands.

Council member Glenn Tjong Akier informed journalists that this had been done because Dutch legal authorities had failed to protect the members of the Council. When asked, the Police said that because of the shortage of police manpower, to which is added the fact that this is vacation time, it was impossible to guard each member of the resistance permanently. Such protection has been provided for Council Chairman Henk Chin A Sen and for Rudolf Jankie, chairman of the Suriname Democracy and Human Rights Foundation, who are reported to be the first targets for attack. The hit squad is said to have arrived in the Netherlands via Brussels.

Seriously

Tjong Akier said in a radio interview that he takes the reports seriously. He wondered whether the fact that the members of the team bore diplomatic passports was really reason enough for Dutch legal authorities to take no action. According to him "this is the umpteenth time that the criminal character of the regime in Suriname has been revealed." He pointed in this connection to the recent attempted murder in Rijswijk.

Legal Order

Replying to the question of whether these developments would not be reason for the Liberation Council to abandon its strategy of nonviolence, Tjong Akier said: "We have always stated that we adhere to the Dutch legal order. We know that our followers see things differently. We do ask ourselves more and more how long we will still be able to maintain that point of view."

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END